

# THE LITERARY GAZETTE

AND  
Journal of the Belles Lettres, Science, and Art.

Nº 2021.

LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1855.

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METALLURGY.—DR. PERCY, F.R.S., will commence a Course of Fifty Lectures on METALLURGY on MONDAY next, the 15th of October, at Twelve o'clock, at the Museum of Practical Geology, Jermyn Street.—Fee for the Course, £1.

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*The War in the East, from 1853 till July, 1855.* By General George Klapka, Author of 'Memoirs of the War of Independence in Hungary.' Translated from the original German Manuscript by Lieutenant-Colonel A. Mednyansky. Chapman and Hall.

THESE few whose opinions are more worthy of attention, both on political and military events in the East, than George Klapka, the heroic defender of Comorn, and the historian of the Hungarian War of Independence. In this volume he gives a concise and lucid narrative of the origin of the war with Russia, with what he terms "an historico-critical sketch" of the campaigns on the Danube, in Asia, and in the Crimea, and a glance at the probable contingencies of the next campaign. The real cause of the war, divested of the confusion which diplomatic mystery had cast around it, is briefly and truly stated by General Klapka in the opening sentence of his work. "In the spring of 1853," he says, "the Czar Nicholas thought the time had arrived when he might attempt a grand move towards that object which Russian policy in the East had, for the last two centuries, pursued with such perseverance and success." The aggression of Russia, brought to a crisis by the invasion of the Principalities, is thus taken rightly as the origin of the war. The next political movement of importance was on the part of Austria. The Turks, under Omer Pasha, during the autumn of 1853, had successfully resisted the advance of the Russians, and after the battle of Oltenitz were in a position to follow up their first advantages. At this juncture the Austrian Interventor at Constantinople represented to the French and English ambassadors the danger that would accrue to the peace of Europe from a further conflict between Turkey and Russia, and persuaded them to use their influence with the Sultan to refrain from active prosecution of the war. Omer Pasha was therefore ordered to desist from aggressive movements, and recrossed the Danube with his victorious troops. Then followed a series of illusory attempts at negotiation, the Western Powers being constantly deceived and over-reached by the diplomacy of Austria, professedly neutral, but working for the interests of Russia. During this season of military inaction, the Russians seized the revenues of the Danubian Principalities, and appropriated the tribute due to their suzerain the Sultan. At the same time, emissaries were busy in other parts of the Turkish dependencies, inciting the Slavonian and Greek population to insurrection and rebellion. England and France were prevented from active interference by the crafty persuasion of Austria. While the fleets of the Allied Powers were quietly anchored in Besica Bay, the intelligence arrived of the massacre of Sinope. The French admiral declared himself ready at once to enter the Black Sea, and chastise the Russians for this cruel and treacherous aggression, provided the English fleet would support him. The ambassadors at the Porte were unwilling, however, to take the responsibility of active proceedings, and the negotiations went on till the formal proposals for peace assumed the shape of the memorable "Four Points." It is tedious now to trace the progress of the discussions on these points,

and it is sufficient, as a vindication of the subsequent proceedings of the Western Powers, to know that neither Russia nor Austria were sincere in the desire for peace on the terms proposed at the close of 1853. The tidings of the catastrophe at Sinope raised just indignation throughout Europe, and the people of England and France compelled their Governments to relinquish diplomacy and to assume a more open resistance to the aggressions of Russia. In the spring of 1854 war was declared by England and France, and military operations were resumed on the banks of the Danube. The influence of Austria still continued to be exerted perniciously against the Turks. While the Russians were advancing southward, the Wallachians offered to rise in their rear, a movement which would have been of immense importance. The Austrian diplomatists represented the proposal as revolutionary, and detrimental to the conservative interests of Europe. The offer was therefore not only rejected, but the Wallachian militia, who had deserted to the Turks, were sent back disarmed to the Russian camp, and basely left to fall victims to Russian courts-martial. Encouraged thus by the European Powers, the Russians proceeded more boldly in their offensive operations. Under Marshal Paskiewitch, who replaced Prince Gortschakoff (not the defender of Sebastopol), the Russians, in great force, advanced to attack the fortresses of Rassova and Silistria. All this time, had Austria been sincere in her professions, the Russians dared not have exposed themselves to attack from her armies. But there being a good understanding between the two despotic governments, Paskiewitch felt himself at liberty to carry out his plans against Turkey. The fear of a rapid advance on Constantinople at length roused the English and French authorities to send troops to prevent this catastrophe. Gallipoli was chosen as the place of landing for the allied army. The gallant defence of Silistria defeated more effectually the plan of the Russian generalissimo. Unable to advance with this fortress untaken, and the Turks having gained fresh courage from the successful resistance, the Russians were anxious to retire. Again the influence of Austria was used in their behalf, and the Russians, under pretext of avoiding what the Court of Vienna declared would be a *casus belli*, retired from the Principalities, which were thenceforward occupied by Austrian troops. Such was the state of matters on the Danube under the convention of June 14, 1854.

In the second chapter of his book, General Klapka reviews the campaign in Asia, of which a more detailed account has lately been published in this country by Mr. Duncan. The results of the war in this quarter have been hitherto unpropitious, and General Klapka loudly condemns the Allies for the culpable negligence manifested in regard to the progress of the Russians. Let us hope that it is not yet too late to retrieve the error, and that attention will be given to that region, which is to Russia in the south what Poland is in the west—her most vulnerable part!—

"The Allies ought to have been aware that an energetic offensive in the Caucasus, and the defeat of their enemy there, would have immensely promoted the success of their arms on the other scenes of action. It was possibly apprehended that the possession of those districts would bring but little direct advantage, and that even that little could not easily be turned to account; but, on the other hand, it was entirely forgotten what enormous

Russian forces would thereby be destroyed, and that, by means of that acquisition, in the following year a Turco-Persian and Circassian army, numbering hundreds of thousands of combatants, might have been called into existence to deluge Russia as far as the Don and the Wolga. Neither was it taken into consideration that so tremendous an invasion would have shaken that empire to its very foundation, and have produced consequences of the highest and most beneficial importance to humanity. In a word, everything was disregarded and forgotten, and the conquest of Russia confined to preparations for a descent upon the Crimea."

The campaign in the Crimea, and the siege of Sebastopol, naturally form the portion of General Klapka's book which will be read with deepest interest. The events of the siege are too familiarly known to admit of our dwelling on them here, but the following opinions of the Hungarian general, as to the probable results of the capture of the town, deserve notice. His book, let it be remarked, was written before the final assault, the success of which he believed to be somewhat doubtful:—

"Supposing, however, that the Allies should, in the end, and at the cost of half their army, obtain possession of the south side of Sebastopol; what then? A moment's consideration of this vital question will not be out of place here. The Allies, when once masters of the town, have two alternatives: either to content themselves with what they have done, and order a re-embarkation of their troops, or to decide upon a continuation of operations; in the first case, the success of the enterprise would only be partial, for if the vessels were sunk, the dockyards, arsenals, forts, the whole city, everything destroyed on the south side, the northern fortifications would still stand unconquered, and from their commanding heights look disdainfully upon the departing squadron: in the latter case, the first thing naturally suggested to us is, whether it would not be more reasonable for the Allies to desist from expending the flower of their armies in the Crimea, and to select another sphere of action, where gain and loss might be balanced more proportionately, and the object of the war, as well as its ultimate issue, be really brought within their grasp?"

"If the Western governments should decide on a continuance of operations in the peninsula, for the purpose of obtaining possession of the north side of Sebastopol, they might, after having defeated the Russian army, either limit themselves to taking up a strong defensive position along one of the three rivers, the Alma, Katcha, or Belbeck, for sake of covering the new siege, in which case, they would not be exposed to greater eventualities than the loss of time, and the hardships of another winter campaign; or leave the hilly, rugged country, and descend into the flat, unhealthy, and scantily populated northern steppes in pursuit of the enemy, where they would probably hazard all they had hitherto so dearly purchased. The northern half of the Crimea is not the proper theatre of war for the Allied troops. The nearer the Allies are to Perekop, the Russian line of retreat, the more keenly they will feel the scarcity of the land transport, the want of a sufficient cavalry, and the difficulties of getting up supplies from the fleets; while on the other hand, the chances of success for the Russians will increase as they approach their depôts, magazines, and reserves, and bring their numerous horse to bear with full force upon their pursuers."

"Under existing circumstances, the complete conquest of the Crimea can only be accomplished by successful operations on the continent. If the Allies could once succeed in driving back the Russians into the interior of their empire, the Crimea would then fall without a struggle."

It is evident from this that General Klapka does not expect great results from any further operations in the Crimea. His great hope

rests in an attack on Russia from the Baltic next season, joined with an advance from the Danube and Pruth towards the Dniester. Political critics will of course say that he is influenced in this opinion by his feelings towards Poland and Hungary, and that England and France are not carrying on the war in behalf of these nationalities. But the arguments are stated, not on political, but on military grounds, and we are pretty confident that if the war is not concluded speedily by a patched-up peace, the wider struggle indicated by General Klapka must at length be entered on, as the only effectual way of breaking the power of Russia:—

"In order to make up for their fruitless efforts and sacrifices in the East, as well as to insure a decisive issue to their advance from the Danube and Pruth towards the Dniester, and moreover to be able to lend a helping hand to Poland, it is most essential for the Allies to commence a campaign from the Baltic simultaneously with that in the south, which would oblige the Russians to divide their forces. The chances of an attack upon Russia from the Baltic provinces, would be greatly enhanced by the Swedes unsheathing the sword on the side of the Allies. The Swedish army is excellent and ably officered, and might, without great effort, be brought to the strength of 60,000 to 80,000 combatants. But to secure the alliance of that nation, the Western governments must frankly and honestly explain their future intentions as to Russia; for, notwithstanding that the Swedes are animated against the Muscovites by a deep-rooted national hatred, and have many an old grudge to pay off; notwithstanding that they would find trusty allies in the German Baltic provinces, as well as in Finland, where the whole coast along the gulf, including that portion on which the present Russian metropolis stands, once formed part of their realm; in spite of these facts, neither the Swedes nor their government would join in a struggle, unless certain that they would not be left alone and exposed in a single-handed combat to the vengeance of Russia.

"The Allies must, therefore, declare that it is their firm intention not to continue this sham war, but in right earnest to despoil the northern giant of all his ill-gotten gains, amassed within the last two centuries, and from which he draws his resources for farther aggression.

"It is evident from the scanty laurels that have been hung upon the mastheads of the united fleets during the past as well as the present year, that they can do but little unless assisted by a numerous army. At present the sole employment of that powerful naval force consists in bombarding isolated forts or towns, and in capturing a few trading vessels and fishing barks. In the event of an attack from the north-western borders being decided upon, the part of the Allied squadron in the Baltic would be similar to that in the Euxine, viz., besides blockading the Russian ports, transporting and landing the troops and materials of war, to protect the disembarkation of the expedition, and to assist in keeping the occupied points along the coast.

"Now, supposing that 100,000 French and English, and 60,000 Swedes, had landed in the Baltic provinces, what would be the most advisable plan of operations to commence with?

"The coast of the Baltic being still more difficult to defend than that of the Euxine, the Russians would beyond doubt prefer occupying their fortresses, and taking up a defensive position farther inland, to scattering their forces along the seaboard. After deducting the necessary troops for the occupation of the southern seat of war, as well as of Poland, the Russians would then scarcely be able to oppose in the north-west above 120,000 to 150,000 men, namely, the corps of the Guards, part of the corps of the Grenadiers, as well as of the 1st and 2nd corps, the Finland division, and a few reserve brigades.

"It would be unwise of the Allies, with such

superior forces at their disposal, to attempt the conquest of both Finland and the Baltic provinces, for by dividing their armies they would weaken themselves so considerably as to render a decisive blow on either point quite out of the question. A campaign in Finland would only hold good, if the Allies did not meditate the restoration of Poland, and merely limited themselves to the taking of Helsingfors and St. Petersburg; which would prove a strategical mistake, and the more to be regretted as Russia, when freed from the fear of a Polish insurrection, would despatch all her forces in the north against the invaders, who, from the early setting in of winter in those countries, would run the risk of losing the co-operation of their fleets, and be left to their own resources.

"The landing in the Baltic provinces, on the contrary, offers considerable advantages, and might be effected almost without opposition, owing to the peculiar nature of the coast, which is intersected by great gulfs, such as those of Finland, Riga, &c., leaving it very much exposed to naval attacks.

"Having effected a landing, the first move of the Allies should be in the direction of Revel, the capture of which would open a safe harbour for the purpose of commanding the Gulf of Finland, and of making the Russians tremble for their metropolis. The next objects might be Riga and the mouth of the Düna. The occupation of the former would put the Allies into the possession of the road to Poland. From thence they could immediately advance into Lithuania, take Wilna, and call the Poles to arms. Should the Russians commit the imprudence of awaiting the attack of their adversaries near the coast in isolated detachments, instead of taking up a shorter line of defence farther back, the Allies would then be enabled to commence the campaign with several successful engagements, which would beyond doubt have a favourable influence on their subsequent operations.

"In the event of the Russians being driven from the Baltic provinces, their line of retreat would diverge in two directions, one upon St. Petersburg, and the other upon Poland. Their old ruse of falling back towards the interior would now rather do them harm than good, inasmuch as the Allies would certainly not be caught, like Napoleon in 1812, but content themselves with their acquisition, and only follow the enemy cautiously, till they reached the boundaries of ancient Poland."

If doubts remain in any mind as to the real position of Austria in the present war, the following considerations may well remove them:—

"The inciting of the Bosnians; the open and active support of the Montenegrins; the brilliant reception of their prince, Daniel Pietrowitsch, at Vienna; the mission of Leiningen; the original text of the Vienna note; the protest against the entry of the Allied fleets into the Black Sea; the important services of the Austrian consuls in continually supplying Russia with intelligence; the attitude of the Austrian press at the commencement of the war; and lastly, the outrageous conduct of the Austrian army of occupation, as well as of their *employés* in the Principalities. By this course, and also by her apparent adhesion to the Western alliance, together with her having concentrated an army of observation in Galicia and Transylvania; moreover, by her reiterated assurances of a speedy change, from a mere demonstration to decided action; and finally, by the conduct of her envoys at Constantinople, who well knew how to assume the appearance of warm friends of Turkey, and how to make people forget her hostile proceedings against that country since 1848 and 1849, by dint of this tortuous course, as well as by having secretly promised Russia at any rate to remain neutral—Austria has succeeded in keeping up an *entente cordiale* with the Western powers, in excluding Prussia from the conferences, and securing for herself the lion's share in the quarrel, the possession of the Principalities. It cannot be denied that the Austrian government has shown great tact in deluding the Western powers as to

its real intentions. But however successful this crafty policy has hitherto been, it has now, probably, reached its climax. Even her greatest partisans begin to discover that Austria has simply been serving Russia at the cost of the Allies, and that the signal reverses which the latter have encountered in the course of this war are owing to Austria's neutrality."

The unwillingness of the French and English Governments to appeal to the people of Europe, and their resting on the doubtful support of the courts and diplomats, must hinder the arraying of the masses against Russia. It is feared that any appeal to "the oppressed nationalities" would be the signal for revolution and disorder. General Klapka combats this idea:—

"Is it not passing strange that the English and French Governments in 1855 are afraid of having recourse to the same agencies, which the Holy Alliance did not shrink from making use of against Napoleon in 1813 and 1814? Is the danger from the north less now than it was at that period from the West? Did not the thrones of Naples, Westphalia, and other similar creations of the French autocrat—so soon subverted by the Allied sovereigns—possess at least as much legal foundation as the claims of Russia upon her share of the Polish territory? It would seem that the apprehension of a general political conflagration prevails in the cabinets of London and Paris. We believe that as far as the nations are concerned, whose aid is requisite to repel Russia, such an apprehension is without foundation; for they are wholly unacquainted with the social questions which agitate the West of Europe, and all they desire is the restoration of their national independence, as established and sanctioned by the laws and customs of centuries. As soon as the Allies change their present watchword, 'the integrity of Turkey,' for 'the liberation of the oppressed nationalities,' they will have one million of combatants at their disposal. The national forces of Poland, Hungary, and Italy, supported by England and France, Sweden and Turkey, will then stand forth to destroy for ever Russia's preponderance on the continent."

General Klapka, towards the conclusion of his book, offers some suggestions on the best means for providing a guarantee against future Russian aggression, and these are, in his opinion, the restoration of Poland, and the establishment of a Confederation of the Danube. The latter has of late been mooted in this country, and 'The Times' has advocated it, but excluding Hungary from the Confederation. General Klapka would include the whole region from the northern Carpathians to the Adriatic and the Black Sea, comprising Hungary, Transylvania, Croatia, Slavonia, Dalmatia, Montenegro, Bosnia, Servia, Herzegovina, Moldavia, Wallachia, Bessarabia, and Bukovino. These may all be comprised under three great states, Hungary, Southern Slavonia, and Roumania or Wallachia. Each might remain independent, with local constitutions, but a central federal government, whether republican or monarchical. The population is not far from twenty-five millions, a large portion of which is in the highest civilization, Hungary and Transylvania alone numbering twelve and a-half millions. The strength of Hungary was seen in her War of Independence, when, thrown upon her own resources, she was on the point of subduing her Austrian oppressors, and was only reduced by the overwhelming power of Russia. The united forces of the Confederate States of the Danube might amount to an army of five hundred thousand, which would be at the disposal of the Western Powers in the event of war against Russia. What Austria now professes and promises to do, the Confedera-

tion of the Danube would effectually perform, and the peace of Europe would be preserved, while incalculable benefits would accrue to countries now hindered, by political theories as to the balance of power, from advancing in wealth and civilization. This is one way of permanently settling the affairs of Europe, so far as fear of Russian aggression is concerned, and is independent of the re-constitution of Poland, the feasibility of which is more doubtful.

*Historical Sketches of the Statesmen who flourished in the Time of George III.* By Henry, Lord Brougham. Vol. I. Griffin and Co.

AFTER all that can be said about the dignity of science, and the catholicity of literature, as compared with polities, Lord Brougham's 'Sketches of Eminent Statesmen' will maintain a wider and more lasting popularity than his 'Lives of the Philosophers,' or of 'The Men of Letters of the Time of George III.' Under the attractive form of biography he has in this work given a masterly review of all the leading events, and the chief actors in them, during the most important period in the history of the human race. The very names of the men, how they conjure up great recollections, not of British nor of European, but of world-wide interest! Chatham, North, Mansfield, Burke, Fox, Pitt, Sheridan, Erskine, Grattan, Canning, Romilly, Wilberforce, are among the lives in the present volume, with that of George III. himself, one of the most faithful and striking of all the sketches. In support and in illustration of the account of the king's character and conduct, his private correspondence with Lord North, referred to in the introduction, is given in this new edition at length, as an appendix to the life of that statesman. The closing paragraphs of the sketch of the king indicate the spirit and character of the whole correspondence sufficiently to justify the comments of the biographer:—

"That this Prince in his private life had many virtues, we have already stated, with the qualification annexed of these being always, even as regarded his strong domestic affections, kept in subjection to his feelings as a sovereign. With regard to his general disposition, it must be added that he belonged to a class of men, not by any means the worst, but far beneath the best, in the constitution of their hearts, those who neither can forget a kindness nor an injury. Nor can this sketch be more appropriately closed than with two remarkable examples of the implacable hatred he bore his enemies, and the steady affection with which he cherished his friends.

"Among the former, Lord Chatham held the most conspicuous place, apparently from the time of the American question; for at an earlier period his correspondence with that great man was most friendly. But the following is his answer to Lord North's proposal that Lord Chatham's pension should be settled in reversion on his younger son, afterwards so well known as the second William Pitt. It bears date August 9th, 1775. 'The making Lord Chatham's family suffer for the conduct of their father is not in the least agreeable to my sentiments. But I should choose to know him to be totally unable to appear again on the public stage before I agree to any offer of that kind, lest it should be wrongly construed into a fear of him; and indeed his political conduct the last winter was so abandoned, that he must, in the eyes of the dispassionate, have totally undone all the merit of his former conduct. As to any gratitude to be expected from him or his family, the whole tenor of their lives has shown them void of that most honourable sentiment. But when decrepitude or

death puts an end to him as a trumpet of sedition, I shall make no difficulty in placing the second son's name instead of the father's, and making up the pension 3000l."

"From the truly savage feelings which this letter displays, it is agreeable to turn the eye upon so amiable a contrast as the following affords, written to the minister whom he ever loved beyond all his other servants, and only quitted when the Coalition united him to the Whigs:—

"Having paid the last arrears (Sept. 1777) on the Civil List, I must now do the same for you. I have understood, from your hints, that you have been in debt ever since you settled in life. I must therefore insist that you allow me to assist you with 10,000l., or 15,000l., or even 20,000l., if that will be sufficient. It will be easy for you to make an arrangement, or at proper times to take up that sum. You know me very ill if you think not that, of all the letters I ever wrote to you, this one gives me the greatest pleasure; and I want no other return but your being convinced that I love you as well as a man of worth, as I esteem you as a minister. Your conduct at a critical moment I never can forget."

"These remarkable and characteristic letters naturally introduce us to his two celebrated correspondents, Lord Chatham and Lord North; the one, until Mr. Fox came upon the stage, of all his adversaries, the one he pursued with the most unrelenting hatred; the other, of all his servants, the one for whom he felt the warmest friendship."

From the additional letters we quote some passages in which are remarkably displayed the feelings entertained towards these rival statesmen. On the 30th May, 1777, Lord Chatham moved an address to stop hostilities with America. This was lost by 99 to 28. Next day the King writes to Lord North:—

"L<sup>d</sup> Chatham's motion can have no other use but to convey some fresh fuel to the rebels. Like most of the other productions of that extraordinary brain, it contains nothing but specious words and malevolence."

There is a characteristic letter, though less concise and terse than usual, not dated, but written 15th March, 1778:—

"On a subject which has for many months engrossed my thoughts, I cannot have the smallest difficulty instantly to answer the letter I have just received from you. My sole wish is to keep you at the head of the Treasury, and as my confidential Minister. That end obtained, I am willing through your channel to accept any description of person that will come avowedly to the subject of your administration, and as such do not object to L<sup>d</sup> Shelburne and Mr. Barré, who personally perhaps I dislike as much as Alderman Wilkes; and I cannot give you a stronger proof of my desire to forward your wishes than taking this unpleasant step. But I declare in the strongest and most solemn manner, that I do not object to your addressing yourself to L<sup>d</sup> Chatham; yet that you must acquaint him that I shall never address myself to him but through you, and on a clear explanation that he is to step forth to support an administration wherein you are first Lord of the Treasury, and that I cannot consent to have any conversation with him till the Ministry is formed; that if he come into this I will, as he supports you, receive him with open arms. I leave the whole arrangement to you, provided Lord Suffolk, Lord Weymouth, and my two able lawyers are satisfied as to their situations; but chuse Ellis for Sec<sup>t</sup> at War in preference to Barré, who in that event will get a more lucrative employment, BUT WILL NOT BE SO NEAR MY PERSON."

"Having said this, I will only add, to put before your eyes my most immost thoughts, that no advantage to my country nor personal danger to myself can make me address myself to Lord Chatham or to any other branch of opposition. Honestly, I would rather lose the Crown I now wear than bear the ignominy of possessing it under their shackles. I might write volumes if I would state

the feelings of my mind; but I have honestly, fairly, and affectionately told you the whole of my mind and what I will never depart from. Should Lord Chatham wish to see me before he gives an answer, I shall most certainly refuse it. I have had enough of personal negotiations, and neither my dignity nor my feelings will ever let me again submit to it.

"Men of less principle and honesty than I pretend to may look on public measures and opinions as a game. I always act from conviction; but I am shocked at the base arts all those men have used, therefore cannot go towards them. If they come to your assistance, I will accept them.

"Also without date, but written on 15th March, 1778.

"You have now full power to act, but I don't expect Lord Chatham and his crew will come to your assistance; but if they do not, I trust the rest of the arra<sup>n</sup>g will greatly strengthen and will give efficacy to adminis<sup>t</sup>."

The King's vindictiveness after Chatham's death was more ungenerous than his enmity to him during life. "An address was moved by Colonel Barré, 'that the King would give directions that Lord Chatham be interred at the public charge.' To which Dunning moved as an amendment 'that a monument be erected in Westminster Abbey to the memory of that excellent statesman, with an inscription expressive of the public sense of so great and irreparable a loss.' The motion as amended was carried *nem. con.*" On which the King wrote to Lord North:—

"I am rather surprised at the vote of a public funeral and monument for L<sup>d</sup> Chatham, but I trust it is worded as a testimony of gratitude for his rousing the nation at the beginning of the late war, and his conduct as Sec<sup>t</sup> of State; or this compliment, if paid to his general conduct, is rather an offensive measure to me personally. As to adding a trifling to the pension I have no objection."

Some of the royal letters relate to topics of which the bearings are not much altered in our own time. Thus, in regard to the Admiralty as one of the governing bodies of the State, there were loud complaints; and the King writes:—

"12 Dec. 1778.

"I am sorry to find the strangely managed dispute between the two Admirals is to be discussed in the H. of C. But it may forward what I think w<sup>d</sup> be an advantage, bringing L<sup>d</sup> Howe to the head of the Board of Admiralty, for Administration will somehow or other be too much sneered (*sic*) in that affair, unless a change is made in that department.

"28 Dec. 1778.

"In time of peace I am not convinced that a man of general education may not fill that station as well, but in a naval war like the present it is highly advantageous to have in the cabinet a person able to plan the most effectual manner of conducting it.

"29 Jan. 1779.

"I perceive, as I expected, that opposition, when they talk of Coalition, mean to dictate. I thank God, whatever difficulties may surround me, I am not made of materials to stoop to that. You cannot too soon see Lord Howe, who I trust will be reasonable.

"4 Feb. 1779.

"You may now sound L<sup>d</sup> Howe, but before I name him to preside at the Admiralty Board, I must expect an explicit declaration that he will zealously concur in prosecuting the War in all y<sup>e</sup> quarters of y<sup>e</sup> globe."

In 1779, in the debate on the Contractors' Bill, the Government was outvoted by 158 to 143. Some weeks later the Bill was thrown out by 165 to 124. The defeat of the ministry had little effect on the King, who was resolved to rule even had the majority of the House of Commons been against him:—

"I am sorry you take so much to heart the division of this day. I am convinced that this country will never regain a proper tone, unless Ministers, as in the time of K. William, will not mind being now and then in minority. If it comes to the worst, the Bill will be thrown out in the Lords: the day of trial is not the honourable one to desert me. Keep the merit of having stepped forth when I was in distress, by staying till the scene becomes serene."

The whole correspondence shows, if any additional proof were needed, that the obstinacy of the King was the real cause of the disastrous issue of the American war, his determination to resist all compromise having remained long after the most obsequious of his ministers had become convinced of the fruitlessness of attempting to enforce submission. The letters fully demonstrate the justness of the judgment of Lord Brougham as to the responsibility that rests on the King personally for the results of the great contests in which he pushed to the extreme the royal prerogatives. How far Lord North is to be blamed for retaining office so long is more difficult to determine, as his sentiments still were nearer to those of the King than of the ministers who must have taken his place had he earlier retired.

"George III. was impressed with a lofty feeling of his prerogative, and a firm determination to maintain, perhaps extend it. At all events, he was resolved not to be a mere name, or a cipher in public affairs; and, whether from a sense of the obligations imposed upon him by his station, or from a desire to enjoy all its powers and privileges, he certainly, while his reason remained entire, but especially during the earlier period of his reign, interfered in the affairs of government more than any prince who ever sat upon the throne of this country since our monarchy was distinctly admitted to be a limited one, and its executive functions were distributed among responsible ministers." \*

"The American War, the long exclusion of the Liberal party, the French Revolution, the Catholic question, are all sad monuments of his real power. Of all his resolutions on these affairs, the desire to retain America in subjection seems to have been his strongest propensity; during the whole contest all his opinions, all his feelings, and all his designs, turned upon what he termed the 'preservation of the empire.' Nor was his rooted prejudice against both the Whigs and the French unconnected with the part they both took in behalf of the colonies. Rather than quit his hold over those provinces and receive the Whigs into his confidence, or do what he called 'submitting to be trampled on by his enemies,' he at one time threatened to abdicate; and they who knew him are well aware that he did not threaten without a fixed resolution to act. No less than thrice within four days, in March 1778, did he use this language, in the agony of his mind, at having a junction with the Whig party proposed by his chief minister; and upon one occasion he says, 'If the people will not stand by me, they shall have another king, for I never will set my hand to what will make me miserable to the last hour of my life.' The threat is revived upon the division against Lord North four years afterwards."

The arguments that follow, on the substantial power residing in the Crown, as one of the three estates of the realm, are scarcely consistent with sentiments at other times expressed by Lord Brougham. There is inconsistency, too, in the violent invectives against the press, the liberty of which was not discovered to be licentiousness until he had himself been exposed to its animadversions. The treatment of Lord Brougham by the press at one time was certainly unjustifiable, and to the personal feeling resulting from it must be ascribed the vehemence of language against anonymous political writers in general, in his remarks on Junius and elsewhere

throughout the work. George III. showed something of the same feeling when he wrote to Lord North, "I trust to Mr. Forthe's letters) no more than the newspapers; but I read them with some curiosity, as I do those daily productions of untruth."

#### *Within and Without. A Dramatic Poem.*

By George Macdonald. Longman and Co.  
*The Battle-Day: and other Poems.* By Ernest Jones, Barrister-at-Law. Routledge and Co.

#### *Iphigenia at Delphi. A Tragedy.* By the Rev. Archer Gurney. Longman and Co.

'Within and Without' is one of the most remarkable poems that have lately fallen under our notice. If the author possessed ordinary judgment and literary art proportioned to his inventive fancy and intellectual vigour, he would take a high place as a poet. In spite of an unpromising title, an unfavourable subject, and a complicated construction, his poem will secure the attention of thoughtful readers. It is like a mass of native ore in which rich metal is enclosed. This, however, is not the form in which mental products are generally attractive or popularly valued. Artists like Tennyson know how to work up materials far less scanty into shapes adapted to common use and admiration. The want of literary skill will prevent this work from being widely known, but critical judgment will recognise the merits that appear amidst the unfortunate faults of the composition. In the first part of the dramatic poem the scene is laid in an Italian monastery, where a Count Julian has taken refuge, in hope of finding consolation for a spirit broken by disappointed love. Surprise and indignation on witnessing the life led by the pretended saints made him uncomfortable in his new position, and the appearance in the neighbourhood of his lady-love determined his resolution to break his monastic vow, and to return to the world. The second part describes his escape, the pursuit of the monks, and the meeting with his Lilia in time to rescue her from the violence of a suitor whom she detested, and whom he kills in defending himself from attack. He conceals himself for some time, and on his place of retreat being discovered by one of the monks, he has to fly for his life, accompanied, however, by Lilia. In this part of the poem the workings of his mind are powerfully described, when he has to tell her of his hands being imbued in his rival's blood, and also of his having broken his monastic vow. On the latter point he thus soliloquizes:—

"Julian. How shall I manage it? I have her father's leave; but have not dared To tell her all; and she must know it first. She fears me half, even now. What will she think To see my shaven head? My heart is free—I know God doth above mistakest vaws. I thought I should be helped to search, by those Who knew the secret place of the Most High. If I had known, I would have bound myself Brother to men, from whose low, marshy minds Never a lark springs to salute the day? The loftiest of them dreamers; and the best Content to be, not live, nor trouble thought. It cannot be God's will I should be such. Nay, more. Did they not virtually condemn Me in my quest, that I was not content To kneel with them around a wayside post, Nor heed the pointing finger at its top? I see more clearly now, though not more surely, Than ere I left that house of foolishness, That such are not God's nurseries for his children. My very birth into a world of men Shows me the school where he would have me learn; Shows me the place of penance; shows the field Where I must fight and be victorious, Or fall and perish. True, I know not how This is to be; He must direct my way. But then for her—she cannot see all this; Words will not make it plain; and if they would,

Time has grown shorter than our needs: at least So this dull overshadowing forebodes. True, it may be but vapour, which the heat Of too much joy engenders; sudden fear Lest this joy be too good a child to live: The wider prospect from the steep hill's crest, The deeper to the abyss the cliff goes down. But how will she receive it? Will she think That I have mocked her? How could I have helped it? Her illness and my danger—Yet, in truth,

So strong was I in right, I scarcely thought Her doubts might be a hindrance in the way. My love did make her so a part of me, I never dreamt she might judge differently, Until our talk of yesterday. And now Her horror at Nembroni's death confirms me: To wed a monk will be to her like incest. I cannot take the truth, and, bodily, Hold it before her eyes. She is not strong. She loves me not as I love her. But always, (Whether from good or evil I know not) I have loved a life for what it might be, more Than what it was. And there's a germ in her Of something noble, far beyond her now: Chance gleams betray it, though she knows it not. This evening must decide it, come what will."

After an interval of five years the third part opens in a poor lodging in London, whither they had fled to escape the vengeance of the friends of the murdered Nembroni. Julian has some employment in a mercantile house, and his wife has taken a situation in a nobleman's family as governess. Habitual melancholy weighs on the poor refugee's heart, his only enjoyment appearing to be found in the lively prattle of their child, of whom he was devotedly fond. With regard to Lilia's love, it seemed as if poverty had the effect proverbially ascribed to it. He thus muses during her absence:—

"I have grown common to her. It is strange— This commonness; that, as a blight, eats up All the heart's springing corn and promised fruit. (Looking round.) This room looks very common: every thing Has such a well-known look of nothing in it; And yet when first I called it hers and mine, There was a mystery inexhaustible. About each trifle on the chimney-piece. But now the gilt is nearly all rubbed off. Even she, the goddess of the wonder-world, Seems less mysterious and worshipful. No wonder if you, sir, I should be common. And what must I think? Is this the true? Was that the false that was so beautiful? Was it a rosy mist that wrapped it round? Or was love to the eyes as ocean, Making all things more beatuous than they were? Or can that opium do more than God? To waken beauty in a human brain? Is this the rule, the cold, undraped truth? A skeleton admitted as a guest? At life's loud feast, wearing a life-like mask? No, no; my heart would die if I believed it. A blighting fog uprises with the day, False, cold, dull, leaden, grey. It clings about The present, dragging like a robe; but still Forwards the past, and lets no hues shine out, While on the future pours the light of Heaven. The Lovely is the True. The Beautiful Is what God made. Men from whose narrow bosoms The great child-heart has withered, backwards look To their first-love, and laugh, and call it folly. A mere delusion to which youth is subject, As childhood to diseases. They know better. And proud of their denying, tell the youth, On whom this wonderment of being shines, That will be over with him by and by: 'I was so when a boy—look at me now.' Youth, be not one of them, but love thy love. So with all worship for the high and good, And pure and beautiful. These men are wiser! Their god, Experience, but their own decay; Their wisdom but the grey hairs gathered on them, Yea, some will mourn and sing about their loss, And for the sake of sweet sounds cherish it, Nor yet believe that it was more than seeming. The man in whom the child's heart hath not died, But grown into the man's, still loves the Past; Believes in all its beauty; knows the hours Will dissipate the mist; and when this day Has laid its stone upon the monument, A morning light will break one morn, and draw The hidden glories of a thousand hues Out from the crystal depths, and ruby spots, And sapphire-veins, unseen, unknown, before. Far in the future lies his refuge. Time Is God's, and all its miracles are his; And in the Future he overtakes the Past, Which was a prophecy of times to come; Where lie great flashing stars, such as shone out In childhood's laughing heaven; the wonderment With which the sun went down and moon arose; The joy with which the meadows opened out Their daisies to the warming sun of Spring; And so, to reach it, climbs the present slope

Of each day's duty—here he would not rest—  
Believing that the glory still is near,  
Though o'er its face a covering is spread,  
As o'er the bride's dear face the bridal veil :  
He knows the beauty radiant beneath,  
Till death dies into sight, the cloudy veil  
Melteth away pierced through with inward light ;  
And the man knows God never mocked a man  
With beauty meant to die and make no sign.  
If thy young heart yet lived, my Lilia, thou  
And I might as two children, hand in hand,  
Go home unto our Father. I believe  
It only sleeps, and may be yet awaked."

Similar misunderstandings and misgivings find place in Lilia's mind, and she thus reasons with herself :—

"Lilia. He grows more moody still, more self-withdrawn.  
Were it not better that I went away,  
And left him with the child ; for she alone  
Can bring the sunshine on his cloudy face ?  
Alas ! he used to say to me, *my child*.  
Some comfort would receive me in my land  
Where I might keep unseen, unquestioned ;  
And pray that God, in whom he seems to dwell,  
To take me likewise in, beside him there.  
Had I not better make one trial first  
To win again his love to compass me ?  
Should I not kneel, lie down before his feet,  
And beg and pray for love as for my life ?  
Clasping his knees, look up to that stern heaven,  
That broods above his eyes, and pray for smiles ?  
What if endurance were my only need ?  
He would not turn away, but speak forced words,  
Soothing with kindness me who thirst for love,  
And giving service where I wanted smiles ;  
Till by degrees all had gone back again  
To where it was, a slow, dull misery.  
No. 'Tis the best thing I can do for him—  
And that I will do—free him from my sight.  
In love I gave myself away to him ;  
And now in love I take myself again.  
Him will not miss me ; I am nothing now."

In the sequel of the story, jealousy takes the place of moodiness in Julian's mind, and he is driven at last to madness, by the absence of his wife, accompanied by plausible but groundless rumours regarding her attachment to the nobleman whose daughter was her pupil. The late discovery of her innocence closes the fourth act, and the fifth is composed of a somewhat incoherent dream, of which we shall only say that it does not fitly or well conclude the poem. We have already stated how devoid the whole composition is of aptness of form, and artistic taste, but passages of unusual force and beauty abound. We quote one of the sonnets which are prefixed to each part of the poem :—

"And weep not, though the Beautiful decay  
Within thy heart, as daily in thine eyes ;  
Thy heart must have its Autumn, its pale skies,  
Leading, mayhap, to Winter's cold dismay.  
Yet doubt not. Beauty doth not pass away ;  
Her form departs not, though her body dies,  
Secure beneath the earth the snowdrop lies,  
Waiting the Spring's young resurrection-day,  
Through the kind nurture of the Winter cold.  
Nor seek thou by vain effort to revive  
The Summer time, when roses were alive ;  
Do thou thy work—be willing to be old :  
Thy sorrow is the husk that doth infold  
A gorgeous June, for which thou needst not strive."

THE name of Ernest Jones is probably better known as a politician than a poet. His publicity and his punishment at the time of the Chartist disturbances will be in the recollection of many. Towards Mr. Jones personally we have far more kindly feeling since reading the present volume. His political extravagance is evidently greatly the result of his poetical temperament. We all know how Oliver Goldsmith's exquisite poetry was made the vehicle for absurd political philosophy. The warm feelings and ardent fancy of the present writer lead him into analogous errors and delusions. He looks at the ideal instead of the real and practicable in the world and human life, and becomes angry and violent because matters are not poetically right. Such is the spirit of the poem, entitled *The Cornfield and the Factory*, from which we quote some lines :—

"Twas merry in England in times of old  
When the summer fields rolled their long billows of gold,  
And the bright year had climbed to its noon :  
The earth was song, laughter, and joyance and love,  
And the Spirit of heaven sat smiling above,  
From the orb of the red harvest moon.

"But where has it flown ? Why less bright than of old  
Does summer turn emerald fields into gold ?  
And the harvest moon struggle through mist faint and dim,  
Like a pale ghost who peers round the charnel shroud's  
rim ?  
On the fair brow of woman a shadow is bent,  
From the wild eye of man flashes forth discontent !  
Say ! Whence comes the change ? Whence the curse has  
been sent ? \* \* \* \*

What is it, next the church-tower climbs the sky,  
How more frequented far, and scarce less high ?  
What plague-cloud rolls across the darkened land,  
And hurls the sun away with shadowy hand ?  
What wheel revolve in dungeons hot and black,  
Of modern tyranny the modern rack ?  
What horrid birth from that unnatural womb ?  
The demon god of factory and loom !  
Fierce, with a yell he bounds upon the land,  
Writhes his thin lip and waves his yellow hand,  
And points, where man's volcanoes through the skies,  
His thousand temples' burning altars rise.  
Curses and groans his ear like anthems greet,  
And blighted lives are cast beneath his feet.  
His sable banners o'er heaven's glory roll  
The shades that blast the heart and reach the soul.  
Care-stricken forms the street's long darkness fill,  
Embosomed dreams of misery and ill !  
A more than Cain-like mark their foreheads bear,  
For sin's their only respite from despair !  
And in each sunken eye's unshallow cell  
The fever flashes, fit of life, but hell.  
Oaths upon infant lips, and loathsome sight !  
The eye of childhood without childhood's light.  
The laugh of youth a gibbering of art ;  
Larves of humanity without a heart !

"The very sun shines pale on a dark earth,  
Where quivering engines groan their horrid mirth,  
And black smoke-offerings, crimes and curses, swell  
From furnace-altars of incarnate hell !  
The demon laughs, and still his arm he waves,  
That thine the villages, but fills the graves.  
Through bleak deserted fields he loves to roam,  
Where shines the furnace on hell's harvest-home.  
'Tis this has stilled the laughter of the child,  
And made man's mirth less holy, but more wild !  
Bade Heaven's pure light from woman's eye depart,  
And trodden love from out her gentle heart.  
'Tis this, that wards the sunshine from the sod,  
And intercepts the very smile of God !"

This is all very well in rhyme but not in reason. There is room enough for what is rural and romantic in old England without cursing the busy scenes of industry and art from which the national wealth and power chiefly flow. The abuse of "the factory" is unworthy of the writer, but in the vulgar pride and meanness of many who grow rich by manufactures and trade there is a fair subject of satire. Of this kind is the story of Leawood Hall, an ancient manor which had fallen into upstart hands :—

"Since then, a sterile-thoughted man  
Had lorded it o'er Leawood fair,  
Who as an errand boy began,  
And ended as a millionaire.  
"And his son, by slow degrees,  
Mounted life with golden feet,  
For the son knew how to please,  
As the sire knew how to cheat.  
"Before he rose, the people's friend,  
He feigned at all their wrongs to burn ;  
Now, as he bent, made others bend,  
And played the tyrant in his turn.  
"Patronised each bible-mission ;  
Gave to charities—his name ;  
No longer cared for man's condition,  
But carefully preserved—his game.  
"Against the Slave-trade he had voted,  
'Rights of Man' resounding still ;  
Now, basely turning, brazen-throated,  
Yelled against the Ten Hours' Bill."

The sum of the author's philosophy, and the most earnest theme of his poetry, will be seen in the following stanzas :—

"Thinner wanes the rural village,  
Smokier lies the fallen plain—  
Shrinks the cornfields' pleasant tillage,  
Fades the orchard's rich domain ;  
"And a banished population  
Festers in the fetid street :—  
Give us, God, to save our nation,  
Less of cotton, more of wheat.

"Take us back to lea and wild wood,  
Back to nature and to Thee!  
To the child restore his childhood—  
To the man his dignity !"

In the two principal poems in the volume, *The Cost of Glory*, and *The Battle-Day*, there are passages of unusual power. The latter story is told with great spirit. It describes the disastrous consequences of an irresolute mind, in the loss of an army through the indecision of its leader. The chief of the Lindseys, of a doubting disposition, had been made suspicious of his wife, and he sought relief from his trouble in war. The previous description of Doubt, in the story of his domestic life, is finely drawn :—

"And Lindsay !—Did he love no more ?  
Oh ! still more madly than before,  
But Doubt, as with enchanter's art,  
Placed his cold hand upon his heart ;  
Froze the warm glances in his eye,  
And turned to ice the burning sigh ;  
Chilled the full ardour of his tone  
To stony words from lips of stone,  
And blighting thus another's fate,  
Yet left himself most desolate.  
At first so slight the altered guise,  
It woke no fear—scarce raised surprise :  
But hour by hour, and day by day,  
Something familiar died away,—  
A smile, a sigh, a look the less,  
A languor in the forced careess,  
Those nameless nothings, that reveal  
Tho' tongues be mute, what hearts must feel.  
Though all unseen, they felt, they knew  
A veil was drawn between the two ;  
'Twas raised by Doubt, 'twas held by Pride,  
Who silent stood on either side ;  
It hung between, so thin of fold,  
And yet so chilly, dark, and cold,  
The smiles of love could not shine through,  
The kind glance lost its tender hue,  
The soft endearments of the Past  
Gleamed pale athwart its darkness cast :  
Yet 'twas at first a thing so slight,  
That mocked the touch, the ear, the sight !  
Oh ! it had yielded to a breath—  
One little word of love and faith !  
That little word was never spoken :  
And souls were wrecked—and hearts were broken !

THE classical tragedy, by Mr. Gurney, is an ambitious effort, and might be deemed successful, were it not for the great works with which it suggests comparison by being associated in subject. Of the Old-World story of the Princess Iphigenia, a dramatic trilogy was composed by Euripides, but only two divisions of the work, the Iphigenia in Aulis, and the Iphigenia in Tauris, have been preserved. Goethe planned the completion of the work, and sketched the design of Iphigenia in Delphi. Mr. Gurney acknowledges his obligations to Goethe's suggestive sketch ; but he has used independence of thought, and has given to the issue of the story a turn different from that indicated by the German poet. The rage of Electra, while supposing that Iphigenia had sacrificed her brother Pylades and her Orestes, is delineated with great power. We forbear from telling the course of the legend by Mr. Gurney, mentioning only that all is made to end well, more after the fashion of a modern novel than a Greek tragedy. The self-immolation of Electra, in dedicating herself to the service of Apollo, in room of Iphigenia, and the happy union of the latter with Pylades, is one of the peculiar features of Mr. Gurney's conception of the story. We give the closing speech of Electra :—

"ORESTES.  
"O, Pylades, tried comrade and deliverer,  
Though silent rests thy joy, I mark it glimmering  
In those fond faithful eyes. Henceforth for me  
Thou liv'st not ; rather I for thee, believe it.  
If fate Mycenæ's golden crown restore,  
'Tis thou shalt be its monarch's guide, and counsellor  
Thy generous nature shall precede, not follow me.—  
But, while I speak, thy joy seems fading too :—  
Already steal the shades of twilight o'er thee.  
What bodes this, loved ones ?

"ELECTRA (to IPHIGENIA).  
"Canst thou longer hesitate ?  
The Gods their will conceal not. If they save  
Orestes, should they blast his friend, his dearest,

And in the hour of rapture seal our woe?  
Hear me, for in their name I speak. Henceforth  
Will I assume thine office; so the Goddess  
Shall lose no votary. Me befits calm's solitude:  
There passion's waves shall ebb to rest away.  
Thou saw'st even now how apt is vehement rage,  
Blind frenzy, to the worst of ills to hurry me,  
It was my counsel cast the shade of woe  
O'er blithe Orestes' years, my darling brother:  
It was my arm that menaced here thy life.  
Twice have the Gods redeem'd from grief unutterable,  
I will not tempt again their magnanimity.  
Electra might not bask in sunshine free;  
She were a portent of unnatural terror.  
The direst, worst, of memories recalling,  
Upon the common earth, beneath the skies.  
But here, the service of the Immortals tending,  
And ministering to human wrong and woe,  
A calm grave peace shall bless the wild Electra,  
A long gold twilight close her stormy day.  
But thou, the darling of all hearts, the treasure  
Long lost, late found, the sunshine of our race,  
Canst ne'er resist in sullen fortitude.  
The hearts that rent from thee would pine in gloom:  
In thee life's active virtues woo maturity:  
As wife, as mother, earth reclaims her heritage,  
The Gods resign thee, but their love rests thine.  
Delay not more our joy; bless faithful Pylades!  
Heav'n's sanctions, fate commands, thy heart inspires thee:  
Ungrateful, impious, wero denial more.  
Ungrateful, impious, wero denial more.  
Ungrateful, impious, wero denial more.

"IPHIGENIA (*faintly, turning from PYLADES*).  
"O, dearest brother! O, Electra!  
How do I love ye both!

"PYLADES (*kneeling, his face upturned*).  
"And I?"

"IPHIGENIA.

"Thou? thou?

The hour of trial, it hath pass'd; my faith  
Its end attains. Immortal Gods, I thank ye.

"ELECTRA.

"Let silence breathe, what words may ne'er reveal.

"(IPHIGENIA yields her hand.)"

In affecting occasionally the use of antique words, Mr. Gurney makes disagreeable errors. Thus, "ken" is used several times in the sense of know, "Dost thou ken not me?" In Milton, and old classic English writers, "ken" refers to sight, not knowledge. In its general style and diction the drama is not suited for popular taste, but it will afford pleasure to classical scholars.

*Little Millie, and her Four Places.* By Margaret Maria Brewster. Constable and Co.

We gladly do what is in our power to prevent this little volume, unattractive in its title, and ambitious only of usefulness, escaping the notice of any of our readers amidst works of larger pretension. It is a book written expressly for servant-girls, and well adapted it is for all the objects which the gifted and benevolent writer proposes. 'Little Millie' is as full of interest and practical good sense as Miss Brewster's former treatise, 'Work; or, Plenty to Do, and How to Do it.' For the class for whom it is specially intended it must prove directly and eminently useful, and a better gift-book for young domestic servants we do not know; but it may be read by all ranks and ages with pleasure and profit. The advices given and the information communicated are not confined to necessary services and the routine of duty. The culture of the mind and the improvement of the heart are aimed at. There is a chapter entitled, 'Millie's Extract Book, or Things to Look at, and How to Look,' full of pleasant and varied instruction on natural objects within the observation of the humblest members of society. Things to be looked at in the fields and woods, things to be looked at by those who live in cities, things to be looked at in the heavens above and the earth around us, are pointed out in familiar yet eloquent language; and the reader is also taught how to look, or the right spirit as well as the best objects of

observation and reflection. We give from this chapter two short extracts to show the literary style and the high tone of Miss Brewster's writing:—

"I have gazed at the heavens through that gigantic telescope of which I have just told you, and it was a scene I shall never forget. Parsons-town, where Lord Rosse erected it, is in King's County, in Ireland, and the enormous machine is in the midst of a beautiful park, upon the trees, and river, and lake of which the moon and stars shone down with their silvery light. It is an enormous structure—the telescope is forty feet in length, and the mirror in which the heavens are reflected is six feet in diameter, while that of the largest reflecting telescope known before was only four feet in diameter. It is hung between two immense walls, and so well regulated by pulleys, that the least touch can move the large mass, which looks like some huge creature of olden times. It is the same length and breadth as a curious round tower in the neighbourhood! A tall man can walk through the tube, holding up an umbrella, without touching the roof of it. It was a very curious feeling one had in taking a walk in a telescope, which I did every day.

"I saw the moon looking very different from the smooth fair white planet which you gaze upon: it was full of rugged mountains and stony valleys, and bright spaces called seas, though there is no water, and extinct volcanoes, all brought so near that I felt as if I could have walked out of the telescope among them! There are no signs of inhabitants, for if there had been a building as large as a railway station or mill, it would be seen through this monstrous telescope, and the sense of silence and stillness was almost oppressive. This is, however, no argument for there being no inhabitants in the other planets, as the moon may be in the state of preparation for them, in which our earth must have been for ages before the creation of man. I saw also one of the nebulae, called the dumb-bell nebula from its shape, and it was beautiful to see the dim and distant little white cloud glittering with its millions of starry worlds. It was a scene, indeed, to make earth and its vanities, and its trials and its enjoyments, seem as nothing in the presence of those vast creations of God, and to raise our thoughts and hopes towards that coming time when our spirits must go forth from this little scene of our little lives, and enter into that closer and more immediate connexion with the glorious God and Saviour, and with the universe which He has spread around Him, 'as a tent to dwell in.'

The practical and the elevating tendency of such subjects of study and contemplation is thus earnestly and happily applied:—

"Let us look with grateful hearts—surely the beauty showered around us in the Great Creator's works—the views opened up to us of His exceeding care and skill, and provision for the comfort, not only of ourselves, but of the minutest creature that breathes, should move us to a more personal feeling than mere admiration or intellectual delight. Let us give back love for His love, though it be but the feeble love of our sinful hearts; and let us endeavour, by our earnestness and activity, to promote the purposes of His beautiful and manifold gifts. God hath made the earth a fair watered garden of delights, and many worlds of beautiful and innocent life hath He placed within it; but the living depths of man's own heart are black and dreary, full of all manner of corruption, and grievous in the sight of Him who is the maker of beauty and order. Let us, then, show our gratitude to God for His works, by trying to open the eyes of those who are blinded to them—let us 'declare' their beauty to ears that have been long closed to the wonderful tale;—let us endeavour, by plucking out but one weed from our neighbour's soul—by allying but one sorrow in his heart—by sowing but one furrow with the good seed, to give back the living and abiding gratitude which alone can please God.

'The leaf-tongues of the forest, and the flower-lips of the sod,

The birds that hymn their raptures in the ear of God,  
The summer wind that bringeth music o'er land and sea,  
Have each a voice that singeth this sweet song of songs

to me:

'This world is full of beauty, as angel worlds above,  
And if we did our duty, it might be full of love.'

'Night's starry tendernesses dower with glory evermore,  
Morn's budding bright melodious hour comes sweetly as  
of yore;

But there be million hearts accurst, where no sweet sun-  
bursts shine,

And there be million hearts athirst for Love's immortal  
wine.

This world is full of beauty, as angel worlds above,

And if we did our duty, it might be full of love.'

GERALD MASSEY.

powers; all things were created by Him and for Him.' (Col. i. 16.)"

To those who read these extracts the work needs little formal recommendation. It sustains Miss Brewster's reputation as a most successful authoress in the useful and honourable walk she has chosen.

#### NOTICES.

*Specimens of the German Lyrical Poets from Klopstock to the Present Time.* Translated into English Verse, with Biographical and Literary Notes. By Mary Anne Burt. Hall, Virtue, and Co.

To students of modern German literature, or to English readers who wish to have some knowledge of the productions of the best lyrical poets of that country, this will prove an acceptable volume. The plan of the work is to give specimens of the best or most characteristic odes and minor pieces of each poet, with a biographical memoir prefixed. These memoirs are extremely interesting, both as personal sketches, and from the notices of public and political events with which continental men of letters have generally been more mixed up than our English poets and authors. The selections are from Klopstock, Schiller, Goethe, Höttl, Bürger, Uhland, Heine, Mäurer, Margraaff, Prutz, Lewis I., King of Bavaria, Rückert, Freiligrath, Salis, Dingelstadt, Platen, Anastasius Grun, Zedlitz. The names of some of these are probably new to many of our readers, but there is not one who is unworthy of being known either from personal character or from the merit of his works. Of the bards still living most are in exile, waiting for better days for their fatherland, for almost all German poets are on the popular side of politics, and are haters of despotism. Some of them occupy conspicuous literary positions, not subject to political turmoils. Thus Hermann Margraaff, formerly *collaborateur* of the 'Augsburger Allgemeine Zeitung,' and subsequently associated with M. Gervinus in the 'Deutsche Zeitung,' a moderate paper, in the stormy period of 1848, 1849, keeping midway between revolutionary and reactionary forces, is now editor of the 'Blätter für Literarische Unterhaltung,' published by Brockhaus of Leipsic, one of the best critical reviews on the continent. Lists of the principal writings of each author are appended to the biographical memoirs. The English translations of the lyrics are generally faithful and spirited.

*My First Season.* By Beatrice Reynolds. Edited by the author of 'Counterparts,' and 'Charles Auchester.' Smith, Elder, and Co.

The cleverness with which this story is written makes us more regret the lack of interest in the subject. To many readers a novel of ordinary fashionable life, however it may be written, is attractive, and here are found Lord Normanville and Lady Barres, and Hugh de Brabazon and Lady Mayfair, with other personages who figure under various aliases and disguises in works of fiction. The opening sentence of the book introduces us into the region of commonplace:—"I am the only child of Anne Vaux, sixth daughter of the sixteenth Baron Ailye; a baron proud of not being an earl—as all the Ailyes are. My mother married a clergyman, whose erudition was remarkable, though he was remarkable for nothing else. He was chaplain at Ashleigh Place, the chief seat of the Ailyes, but never came to town; and, although my mother was married at the chapel in the house, I have reason to believe that the union was execrated by her family, as her father never raised my own from his obscure position: which, however, he preferred to any ecclesiastical dignity, with or without ease." If the story is written as well as "edited" by the author of 'Charles Auchester,' we must warn her off this new ground. In the former works there was some novelty and variety of subject, but the narrow circle of conventional life of fashion is not the right field for such a writer. At the same time it is a book above the average of its class, and in one

volume contains as much incident and character as are usually spread over three.

*The Microscope, and its application to Vegetable Anatomy and Physiology.* By Dr. Hermann Schacht. Edited by Frederick Currey, M.A. 2nd edition. Highly

To this valuable treatise, the former edition of which was most favourably received by scientific observers, much new matter is now added, so that it is a most complete manual of this branch of microscopical science. The translator has also prefixed some preliminary chapters on the general principles of optics, mechanics, and chemistry, necessary for an intelligent and efficient use of the microscope in scientific researches. Chapters are also given on the 'preservation of specimens,' the 'delineation of objects,' and other subjects connected with microscopical studies or expositions. In the original work of Dr. Schacht much space is occupied with descriptions of foreign microscopes, for which the translator has substituted notices of the best English instruments, with directions for their use. There are numerous illustrations throughout the volume.

*Schnorr's Bible Pictures.* English Edition. Printed from the original Wood-blocks. Williams and Norgate.

A REPRINT in this country of the series of biblical illustrations by Julius Schnorr, which have been widely popular in Germany, is commenced in monthly parts, of which there will be about thirty, each with six engravings. The plates are given unaltered from the original blocks, with the addition of a short passage from the English Bible explanatory of each subject. The designs of Schnorr are bold and spirited in style, yet the enthusiasm of art is rarely allowed to interfere with the faithful and devout expression of the scriptural subjects. Some few plates less consonant with English feelings and taste in such matters will be omitted from the series. Schnorr's 'Biblical Pictures' are such as will arrest and rivet the attention of the young, while as works of art some of them are most striking and suggestive studies. The English edition is produced in a superior style, and at a very cheap price.

#### SUMMARY.

In a new edition, in six volumes, of *The Poetical Works of Lord Byron* (Murray), volume first contains Childe Harold's Pilgrimage, Hours of Idleness, English Bards and Scotch Reviewers, The Curse of Minerva, Hints from Horace, and The Waltz. The perfection of typographical art is displayed in this splendid Library Edition of Byron's Poems.

In the new edition of the works of Hallam, is published volume II. of *The Constitutional History of England*, from the accession of Henry VII. to the death of George II. (Murray), to be completed in three volumes; the eighth edition of this standard work.

Reprinted from the 'Edinburgh Review,' with additions and a postscript, an article on *Railway Morals and Railway Policy*, by Herbert Spencer, author of 'Social Statics,' is given as No. 89 of The Traveller's Library (Longman and Co.)

Volume III. of *Lectures by the Rev. W. H. Krause, A.M.*, edited by Charles Stuart Stanford, D.D. (Herbert, Dublin), concludes this series of discourses by a clergyman, who during his life was highly esteemed in Dublin. His theology is of the strict Calvinistic school, the peculiar doctrines of which have marked prominence in these lectures, on Old Testament historical themes, as well as in the sermons previously published.

In the Annotated Edition of the English Poets (John W. Parker and Son), edited by Robert Bell, the second volume of the *Works of Samuel Butler* contains the remainder of Hudibras, and other pieces, with notes, critical and historical, by the editor.

A series of scriptural comments and meditations, entitled *Communions with the Heart, suggested by Passages in the Four Gospels* (Seeleys, Jackson, and Halliday). The tone of the book is earnest

and practical, without entering into critical disquisition or doctrinal statements, aiming at helping self-examination and spiritual improvement. Prayers compiled from scripture are appended to the meditations. *Thoughts on the Revision of the Prayer-Book, and of the terms of Clerical Conformity*, by the Rev. J. R. Prettyman, M.A. (Hope and Co.), in which the author proposes certain alterations in the formularies of the church, and modifications of the existing terms of clerical conformity; a hopeless, even were it a desirable object, so long as the present constitution of Church and State remains, and while subscription is regarded, in some measure, as an outward form. A reply to a tract by the Rev. J. C. Royle, B.A., *What is Wanted?* by an author calling himself 'an orthodox Christian' (Hope and Co.), examines some of the peculiar tenets of what is known as 'the evangelical party' in the Church of England, and offers suggestions for the promotion of unity of feeling among ecclesiastics of different shades of theoretical belief.

A revised edition of *Webster's Pocket Pronouncing Dictionary of the English Language*, condensed from the original dictionary by Noel Webster, LL.D., by William G. Webster, son of the American Lexicographer, is published in a convenient form, and remarkably clear typography (Ward and Locke); accentuated vocabularies of classical, scriptural, and modern geographical names are appended.

Under the title of *The Unholy Alliance*, an American view is given of the war in the East, by William Giles (C. B. Norton, New York; Trübner, London), in which the author condemns the support given by the Western Powers to the infidel Moslems, and affirms that the cause of Christianity and of civilization was advancing in the hands of Russia.

Useful and practical advice on many subjects connected with regimen, diet, exercise, and other adjuncts of medical and hygienic art, is contained in a little volume by an American lady, Catherine E. Beecher, entitled *Letters to the People on Health and Happiness* (S. Low, Son, and Co.)

The first number is issued by an American publisher (Philadelphia: Weik. London: Trübner and Co.) of *Pictures of Travel*, translated from the German of Henry Heine, by Charles G. Leland. The Germans generally say that no living poet has exerted an influence like Heinrich Heine since the time of Goethe. With English readers this influence will be less marked, and it is well that it should be so, as much of Heine's poetry is of very dubious tendency, but he is unquestionably a writer of natural genius and versatile talent, and this literal translation will give some idea of his subjects to those not acquainted with the original German.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Eschylus Persae.* English Notes, post 8vo, cloth, 4s. 6d.
- Arnold's Handbook, Grecian Antiquities.* 2nd ed. 3s. 6d.
- Latin Prose Composition.* Part 1, 8vo, cloth, 6s. 6d.
- Barnes's (Rev. A.) *Way of Salvation*, 8vo, cloth, 6s.
- Bell's (C. D.) *Unconscious Influence*, 12mo, cloth, 5s.
- Beren's (Archdeacon) *Selections from Addison*, new ed., 4s.
- Carwithin and Lyall's *History of the Christian Church*, 5s.
- Ciceron's *Orations*, by G. Long, 8vo, cloth, Vol. 2, 12s.
- Eden's (E. P.) *Sermone*, 12mo, cloth, 5s. 6d.
- Hurton's (W.) *Doomed Ship*, post 8vo, cloth, 1s. 6d.
- Invalid's *Hymn Book*, 18mo, cloth, new edition, 2s. 6d.
- Jackson's (G.) *System of Book-keeping*, 8vo, cl., 5s.
- Jane Eyre, 5th edition, post 8vo, cloth, 6s.
- Jesse's *Anecdotes of Dogs*, small 4to, cloth, reduced, 10s. 6d.
- Knight's (W.) *Lectures on the Prophecies*, 8vo, cloth, 7s.
- Lamb's (C.) *Poetical Works*, 4 Vols., 12mo, cloth, £1.
- Lances of Lynwood, 16mo, cloth, 6s.
- Lylah's (W.) *Intellect, &c.*, 8vo, cloth, 12s.
- McCallum's (Rev. D.) *History of the Culdees*, 12mo, cl., 4s.
- Middleton on the Greek Article, new edition, 8vo, cloth, 12s.
- Ministering Children, 12mo, cloth, new edition, 5s.
- Montgomery's *Cotton Manufacture of the United States*, 3s. 6d.
- O'Donnell's (L.) *St. Patrick's Cathedral*, 18mo, cloth, 1s. 6d.
- Orr's *Circle of the Sciences*, Vol. 4, post 8vo, cloth, 4s. 6d.
- Parley's (Peter) *Wanderers by Sea and Land*, 2s. 6d.

Paul Ferroll, post 8vo, cloth, 2nd edition, 10s. 6d.  
Pocock's (E.) India in Greece, 2nd ed., post 8vo, cloth, 6s.  
Practical Lectures for Ladies, crown 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.  
Robson's (W.) Great Sieges, post 8vo, cloth, 6s.  
Rose's (Major) Horses, Hunting, and the Turf, 12mo, 2s. 6d.  
Ruskin's (J.) Lectures on Painting, &c., post 8vo, cl., 8s. 6d.  
Sandby's Outline of the Hist. of the Christian Church, 3s. 6d.  
Savygeour's (D.) Readings in Science, 3rd ed., 12mo, 3s. 6d.  
Selections from the Holy Scriptures, 8vo, cloth, 6s.  
Shadow and the Substance, 12mo, cloth, 3s.  
Shakspeare's Dramatic Works, 1 vol., 8vo, cloth, 6s.  
Sullivan's (E.) Beaten Path, 12mo, cloth, 7s. 6d.  
Tale's (W.) Cambist, 8vo, cloth, 8th edition, 12s.  
Taylor's (T.) Buyers' and Sellers' Calculator, 8vo, cloth, 6s.  
Thackeray's (W.) Pendennis, new edition, post 8vo, cl., 7s.  
Watson's Examples in Arithmetic, 2s. 6d., with Answers, 3s.  
Wilson (J.) on English Punctuation, 4th ed., 12mo, cl., 6s.  
Woodroffe's (Mrs.) Shades of Character, 2 vols., 12s.  
Zornlin's Bible Narrative, 4th edition, 12mo, cloth, 5s.

## DEPOPULATION OF THE HIGHLANDS.

A SUBSCRIPTION is being raised in Scotland for a monument to the memory of Duncan Ban Macintyre, the Glenorchy Bard. This Gaelic poet has given most touching and graphic descriptions of the contrast between the state of the Scottish Highlands when teeming with a warlike, comfortable, and loyal population, and now when laid desolate and turned into deer-preserved and sheep-walks. The Marquis of Breadalbane is one of the largest subscribers to the memorial, although it was feared that the movement would not be relished by the Scottish nobility and landed gentry. In an address, signed by D. Campbell, late Lieutenant 57th Regiment, as chairman of the Committee in Glasgow, the following statements will be read with interest, as the depopulation of the Highlands, and the decay of the martial spirit of the people, have at length tardily gained public notice through the exigencies of the war. "Although some of the nobility and landed gentry of Scotland may well shrink on the perusal of Duncan Ban's 'Cead Deireannach nam Beann,' yet there are none from whom the Committee expect more sympathy with the generous feelings which dictated this national object, than the great majority of the nobility and landed gentry of the Bard's native country. Indeed, the Committee fondly believe that the infatuation which led to sheep-farming in the Highlands—a system whereby the rental of the country can never reach its natural maximum, because it can never develop any other than its spontaneous and superficial resources—instead of preserving and encouraging the native population, who would naturally and gradually have fallen into the modern spirit of progress, like those of the rest of the kingdom, is already beginning to give way to more patriotic feelings, and the desire of returning to a system favourable to the growth and prosperity of a rural and warlike population, equally capable of developing the resources of their bountiful and beautiful country by their enterprise and industry, and of maintaining her greatness and independence by their prowess and bravery. And who will believe that the dignity and power attained by the empire of the British Isles can be maintained by a navy and army recruited from the degeneracy, recklessness, and dwarfishness of manufacturing districts and factories, or the gaunt and mercenary vagrancy and restlessness of foreign States? Duncan Ban Macintyre was engaged by the Highland Societies of Scotland and London to counteract the alienating and disheartening effects on the Gael of the enactments consequent on the outbreak of 1745; and few can doubt that the noble odes composed by him for that purpose had a powerful effect in restoring their loyalty and patriotism, and in exciting the enthusiasm with which they rushed to the standard of their sovereign at the commencement of the last war—when, between the years 1793 and 1804 (see General Stewart's Sketches), they placed 'seven battalions of the line, four of militia, three of the army reserve, and thirty-four thousand seven hundred and eighty-five local militia,' at the service of their country, besides making up to their full complement the regiments previously embodied." Such is the spirit of the appeal for a tribute of respect to the memory of a 'warrior-bard.' But the sub-

ject of the Highland depopulation is one of wider historical and national interest, and we trust that public attention will now be directed to it. According to all accounts, the recruiting parties in the Highlands of Scotland during the past year have been most unsuccessful. In the county of Sutherland scarcely a score of men were picked up in several weeks, while at the commencement of the last great war five hundred Sutherland men were enrolled in as many days, and these formed the nucleus of what is now one of the finest regiments in the service—the ninety-third. The same difficulty has been found in the Western Highlands. It is not wholly to depopulation that this is to be ascribed. The actual number of people is greater now than fifty years ago in every county of Scotland. Of Sutherland the population is above 25,000, while in 1801 it was only 23,000. Argyll has now 88,000, and in 1801 there were only 81,000. Inverness has 96,000 against 72,000 in 1801; and Ross and Cromarty 82,000 against 56,000 at the former census. The truly Highland or Gaelic population has not, however, increased in this ratio, a larger admixture of Lowland people having taken place. The habits of the people have also greatly altered. Taking again the case of Sutherlandshire and Ross and Cromarty, a large portion of the inhabitants have been removed from the interior to the coast, and are now occupied in fishing and other maritime occupations. But the inland population is still numerous enough to make the contrast in regard to recruiting remarkable.

In 'The Times' of the 9th inst. the following statements occur:—"An attempt has been made to show that the Highland population of Scotland, instead of having fallen off, has greatly increased. The statistics adduced in support of this view of the case make it clear enough that during the last fifty years there has been a general increase of the population in the Highland counties; but little is said about the particular phase of it as applying to the more populous towns. A very slight examination of the statistics of population show that towns have increased at the cost of counties, the Celtic inhabitants being driven by clearances for sheep farms, deer forests, and other causes, to reside in the villages and large towns on the coast. But a most important fact in the estimate of this depopulation of the Highland districts consists in a general decrease in nearly all the Highland counties from 1831 to 1851. In Inverness-shire, for example, while the population increased 23,828 from 1801 to 1851, the increase was only 1733 from 1831 to 1851. But in Argyll, where the population had increased during the half century, it decreased during the ten years of the last census from 100,593 to 89,290; and Perthshire decreased from 142,166 to 133,660, both Highland counties. In Ross and Sutherlandshire the population has also declined in proportion, as compared with the first half of the whole period taken, and this falling off shows at once how the work of deterioration is going on. \* \* The emigration returns show a very remarkable state of things as existing in the county of Aberdeen. They state that the number of emigrants to Canada from that county alone has increased from 182 in 1849, to 1412 in 1855. The increase has been as follows:—1849, 182; 1850, 293; 1851, 546; 1852, 599; 1853, 695; 1854, 1598; 1855, 1412; total, 5375. If to these we add the number who have emigrated to Australia, the total for last year amounts to about 1800, and for the seven years to above 8000, mostly all agricultural labourers and occupiers of small farms; and this increased emigration continues. Large sums of money are being received from emigrants already in Canada and Australia, but chiefly in Canada, to enable their friends and acquaintances to follow them, and most encouraging accounts have been received of the progress which the settlers have made in their new fields of labour. There is thus every prospect of a scarcity of agricultural labourers in the north, for not Aberdeenshire only, but other counties are being similarly drained. There are various causes alleged for this exodus of agricultural labourers, the chief of which are, first, low wages, best ploughmen getting only from 6s. to 8s.

in the half-year; secondly, the breaking up of the small farm system, which makes it hopeless for a labourer to look forward to getting a piece of land to farm for himself and family; and, thirdly, the clearances and deer forests in the upper districts of the country. Unless machinery can be made to take the place of manual labour, there is every prospect of Scotland's agricultural population being so thinned that hands will not be got to till the ground, and, as for recruits to the army, they are not now to be got at all in the country districts, where they were formerly to be had in almost any number."

Such are the statements of 'The Times,' in reply to the comments on previous statements, as to the depopulation of the northern districts. There can be no doubt that the unwillingness to serve arises greatly from a deep sense of injury in the hearts of the Highlanders. They are as loyal as ever to the throne, and their patriotism is proverbial. But they are cruelly treated by the proprietors of the soil, many of whom are strangers who have displaced the old chieftains of the clans; and some of the hereditary chiefs have carried out the same pernicious policy in regard to their tenantry, driving them from their native scenes, and turning the land into deer-forests. In England public opinion would never have tolerated the wholesale evictions which in the remote Highlands have been carried on unnoticed, under circumstances often of great cruelty, the cottages of the peasantry being thrown down to compel the removal of their occupants. A gentleman in Glasgow has lately offered to raise a regiment of Highlanders in a few days, if the Government would only promise a parliamentary commission of inquiry into the Highland clearances, and the treatment of the people by the proprietors of the land. The subject is worthy of the attention of those whose sympathies are ready for the deserving and the oppressed. If the Association for Scottish Rights would take up this matter, their labours might prove of some public service.

## TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

AMONG the literary announcements for the present autumn the following may be mentioned. The third and fourth volumes of Mr. Macaulay's 'History of England' at length appear formally in Messrs. Longman's list, in which, also for speedy publication, are named the seventh and eighth volumes of 'Moore's Memoirs, Journal, and Correspondence,' by Lord John Russell. The third and fourth volumes of Holland and Everett's 'Memoirs of James Montgomery,' and the third volume of Lieutenant Burton's 'Personal Narrative of his Pilgrimage to Medina and Mecca.' 'A Second Journey of Madame Ida Pfeiffer round the World,' 'Eight Years' Wanderings in Ceylon,' of modern books of travel, and the ancient 'Travels of Herodotus,' as narrated by Mr. Talboys Wheeler, are also announced by the same publishers. Of their scientific works, the most important is 'Arago's Popular Astronomy,' translated by Admiral Smyth and Robert Grant, M.A., the first of the two volumes of which is nearly ready.

Messrs. Hurst and Blackett announce 'The Life of Jeanne D'Albret, Queen of Navarre,' by Miss Frere, author of 'The Life of Marguerite d'Angoulême; the 'Wanderer in Arabia,' by G. T. Lowth, Esq., 2 vols., with illustrations; a new work by Thomas Hood, son of the Thomas Hood; 'Scottish Heroes in the Days of Bruce and Wallace,' by the Rev. A. Low; and new novels by Mrs. Gore, the author of 'Margaret Maitland,' of 'The Head of the Family,' of 'Emilia Wyndham,' and of 'The History of a Flirt,' a formidable phalanx of female fiction writers, all of them of established reputation, and likely to produce popular works.

At the Architectural Museum, Cannon-row, Parliament-street, Westminster, the following lectures will be delivered during the Autumn Session, 1855: Monday, October 15, 'On Heraldry in its connexion with Architecture,' by the Rev. Charles Bould, M.A. Monday, October 29, 'On Architec-

ral Metal Work,' by F. A. Skidmore, Esq. Monday, November 12, 'On Form, Light, and Shade in Architectural Foliage,' by J. K. Kolling, Esq. Monday, November 26, 'On Colour, and its use in Architectural Art' (a continuation of a former lecture), by Sir Walter C. James, Bart. Monday, December 10, 'On the formation of a National Museum of Architectural Art,' by C. Bruce Allen, Esq. The lectures commencing at eight o'clock. The classes for study and practice of stone and wood carving meet on Monday and Wednesday evenings at the Museum. Cards of admission to the lectures may be obtained gratis on application at the rooms of the Museum on any day of the week, except Saturday, as well as on the evenings of Monday and Wednesday. The Meeting of Art-workmen for the distribution of the prizes for the best specimens of wood and stone carving will take place on Monday, January 7th, 1856.

Dr. Letheby has been elected, at a court of the Commissioners of the Board of Sewers, City Officer of Health, in room of Mr. Simon, appointed medical officer to the general Board of Health, under its new constitution. For the City office there were many candidates, and the list being reduced by successive votes, the contest ultimately lay between Dr. Letheby and Mr. Odling, of Guy's Hospital, when the former was elected by 38 to 26. The salary is 400*l.* a-year. The appointment of Dr. Letheby will be generally approved by scientific and professional men, and will be serviceable to the community.

Prince Albert is to open the new building of the Commercial Travellers' Schools, at Pinner, near Harrow, on the 27th inst. The Lord Mayor is to preside at the entertainment to be given in the Dining Hall after the ceremony. Prince Albert has also consented to lay the foundation-stone of the Midland Counties Institute, at Birmingham, on the 22nd or 23rd of November.

The members of the Dublin Natural History Society, with Lord Talbot de Malahide as president, entertained Professor Allman at a farewell dinner, on Friday last, on the occasion of his going to occupy the chair of natural history at Edinburgh, where he commences his lectures in November.

Mr. Dickens read his 'Christmas Carol' last Friday evening, the 5th inst., to a numerous audience at Folkestone; and on Wednesday last Mr. Thackeray delivered, at the Sussex Hall, Leadenhall-street, his lecture on Humour and Charity, which he prepared in America, as a practical appendix to his course on the English Humorists, when requested to give a lecture for some charitable institution.

Although the dinner to Mr. Thackeray, at the London Tavern on Thursday, was quite of a private character, it may be mentioned that about sixty of his friends were present, among whom were Mr. Macready, Mr. Douglas Jerrold, Mr. A'Beckett, Mr. Albert Smith, Mr. Forster, Mr. Longman, Mr. Murray, Mr. C. Knight, and other gentlemen of prominence in the literary world. Mr. Charles Dickens was genially at home in the chair.

Professor Sedgwick delivered an eloquent and instructive address on the occasion of the opening of the Hall of the Kendal Natural History and Scientific Society, on Monday. The lecture was somewhat discursive, the learned professor discoursing, for above two hours, on a variety of topics connected with geology and meteorology. The hall was crowded, and the Mayor of Kendal presided. Kendal has long borne an honourable name as a provincial town in connexion with science, and the allusions in Professor Sedgwick's lecture to the classical associations of its meteorological records were well understood by those present.

While all literary men are naturally proud of 'the power of the press,' it is not gratifying to observe how frequently that influence is turned to unworthy uses. With political questions it is not our province to meddle, though here historical truth might sanction a protest against the personal attacks on public men by writers incompetent to form a judgment on their conduct. In social questions the same rashness and violence of criticism is bringing discredit on honourable journalism.

A recent instance of this is the abuse of some Worcestershire magistrates for fining a man for being engaged in public work on Sunday. This has afforded a fine subject for affected indignation on the part of the press, and mistaken sympathy in behalf of the offender. Is it not hard that a poor man should be punished for cutting down a little grain on his own ground on the Sunday, which might be spoiled if not cut on that day? This seems plausible: but the facts of the case are—that the man was not very poor; was not in employment so as to be unable to attend to his own affairs on another day; the weather was settled; and the whole plot of ground was two and a half perches, which, at the rate of one rood a day, the estimate for an old or infirm workman, could be cut in less than forty minutes. This time, given either the day before or after, would have rendered needless the offence which, trivial and venial in itself, required public notice as a public outrage on the feelings of a neighbourhood, the propriety of abstaining from ordinary work on Sunday being supported both by the law and the religion of the country. The enforcement of this cessation of public work on Sunday is necessary for the protection of the working-classes themselves from the bondage of unbroken toil, which would soon spread if the privileges of the day of rest are tampered with in these times of keen competition, and when capital is too ready to be extortione with labour. In regard to work done privately the case is different; though here literary men may be reminded of the promise which Dr. Johnson affectionately drew from his friend, Sir Joshua Reynolds, and which the great painter honourably kept. But with respect to work done publicly on Sunday, that which is commenced by individual caprice may be extended under the temptation of gain, and afterwards exacted by the tyranny of power. *Obsta principis* is here sound policy; and he who resists the introduction of Sunday labour, is not only supporting social order and public morality, but is acting as the true friend of the working classes.

The Panopticon has reopened for the winter season, with a new programme, the chief novelty being 'a ramble through Venice,' in which a series of dissolving views are explained in an appropriate and well-delivered lecture, by Mr. Leicester Buckingham.

We understand that an extension of the privilege already granted to their employés during the summer months has been made by the leading booksellers in the Row, including Messrs. Longman and Co., Simpkin and Co., Whittaker and Co., Hamilton, Adams, and Co., their places of business closing early on Saturday throughout the winter.

A prize of 20*l.* for a treatise on the stereoscope is offered by the London Stereoscopic Company, Sir David Brewster being announced as the adjudicator.

The publishers of New York have formed an association for maintaining a more complete and ready communication between all who are connected with the book trade in that city. A central hall for meetings and business, and a committee of management give local habitation and organized action to the association. A new weekly journal is commenced, 'The American Publishers' Circular and Literary Gazette,' the principal object of which is "to promote the acquisition and circulation of early and authentic intelligence on all subjects connected with publishing and the trade in books." The 'Literary Gazette,' hitherto published by Mr. Norton, is merged in the Journal of the Association, of which Mr. Norton is librarian, and Mr. W. H. Appleton and Mr. G. P. Putnam the publishing committee. All the principal publishing firms in New York belong to the association, the head quarters of which, at present, are in Appleton's Buildings, 348, Broadway, forming a sort of booksellers' exchange. The Publishers' Circular, while it will be of great commercial use in America, is an acceptable paper in England, as giving an authentic and complete view of what is passing in the American book trade.

At the recent annual fêtes at Brussels, in commemoration of the country's independence, the prize poems, *pièces couronnées*, were by M. Hymans, 'La Belgique depuis 1830,' in French, and a patriotic poem in Flemish by M. de Geyter. The successful authors had the honour of receiving the prize of merit from King Leopold, who has since presented M. de Geyter with a medal in testimony of his approbation.

Dr. Barth, the African traveller, has arrived in Hamburg, his native place, and has been received with marked honour.

A new planet is said to have been discovered on the 5th inst. by Dr. Luther, of Bilk. We suppose this is the same that has been announced by M. Leverrier, Director of the Paris Observatory, in the last sitting of the Academy of Sciences, as being made by M. Goldschmidt, an artist, who distinguished himself by the discovery of a planet some years ago.

It is announced that Professor Busch, director of the Observatory of Königsberg, died last week of cholera.

Dr. Magendie, the great French physiologist, died, we regret to say, a few days ago at Paris. No savant, it is well known, has done more, or even so much, for experimental physiology as he. He was a member of the French Academy of Sciences, of our Royal Society, and of most of the academies of Europe.

The electric telegraph is being rapidly extended across the seas. A Genoa paper of the 2nd inst. announces that Mr. Brett commenced on the 25th ultimo to immerse the submarine cable between Sardinia and North Africa, and a new additional cable has been laid down between the English and Dutch coasts, by the International and Electric Telegraph Companies, to meet the increasing demand for messages with the countries of Northern and Central Europe. The new cable is 119 miles in length, and weighs 238 tons, and will convey despatches to Amsterdam, Hamburg, or Berlin, with the same rapidity as to Liverpool or Glasgow.

The Queen of England, during her visit to the Exhibition of Fine Arts at Paris, ordered to be purchased a picture in the Wurtemberg gallery, two in the Belgian, and several in the English. Prince Albert having greatly admired one of Meissonnier's paintings, *La Lutte*, the Emperor ordered it to be purchased for his Royal Highness. The artist, on being applied to, was obliged to confess that he had sold the picture to a dealer for 15,000 francs, (600*l.*), but subject to the conditions, that if a larger sum could be obtained for it, the surplus should be divided equally between them. The Emperor, with great liberality, ordered that 1000*l.* should be given for the work.

An effort is about to be made at Fakenham, Norfolk, under the auspices of Lord Stanley, M.P.; the Earl of Leicester, Sir Willoughby Jones, and Captain Townshend, M.P., to establish a rural library for the use of the small tradesmen and agricultural labourers of the district. The subscription is placed at one shilling per quarter, and the project, heartily supported, bids fair to command success, and deserves to be imitated in other rural districts.

It is stated that the "four large medals of honour," destined for French exhibitors in the Fine Arts department of the Universal Exhibition at Paris, are to be awarded to Messrs. Ingres, Delacroix, Troyon, and Meissonnier.

The approaching political convulsions in Italy, which every one foresees, will no doubt give rise to many new publications on that most interesting land. In Germany and in France several have already appeared or are announced; the most remarkable of them, thus far, appears to be one by Kolisch, the well-known German romance writer, entitled 'Letters from Italy,' which is now in course of publication, in parts, in the 'Gazette' of Cologne, and which is being translated into French as fast as it is printed. Kolisch's style of writing is peculiar; it displays some of the breadth and depth of the Germans, without any of that ponderous pedantry which at times makes them so in-

supportable, and much of the graceful lightness of the French, without any of that everlasting flippancy which renders them so wearisome. In his 'Letters' he proves himself as keen an observer of men and manners, as he did in his famous political romance, 'Metternich and Kossuth,' and he describes what he sees with much of the charming piquancy and pathos of Sterne. His work, no doubt, will be translated into English as well as into French.

The dramatic season at Drury Lane commenced on Monday evening, with the production of the Egyptian play, *Nitocris*, conspicuous hieroglyphics in connexion with which have caught the eye in all public places for some time past. More recent announcements have explained that these mysterious advertisements related to a grand original and historical drama founded on the story of an early queen of Egypt, whose name is associated by Herodotus with the completion of the third Pyramid, and of whom vague traditions in other respects have come down from remote times. Slender, however, are the historical materials out of which Mr. Fitzball has constructed his plot, the leading points of which may be told in a few words. *Nitocris* (Miss Glyn), sister to *Mesphra* (Mr. Edgar), king of Egypt, brought up in seclusion among the priestesses of Isis, forms an attachment to *Tihrik* (Mr. Barry Sullivan), a young Egyptian captive, who had saved her from being seized by a crocodile on the banks of the Nile. Her resolution to marry him continues in spite of the rage of her brother, who discovers *Tihrik*, now captain of his guard, in the chamber of the princess. *Tihrik* recognises in *Mesphra* the slayer of his own father, and at this part of the play intervenes a succession of melodramatic incidents, for the invention and management of which Mr. Fitzball's experience as a writer for transpontine theatres has doubtless proved useful. Without mentioning in detail the events in which the brother of *Tihrik*, *Kephed* (Miss Anderton), 'the dark warrior,' and others take part, the result is, that *Mesphra* is killed, and *Queen Nitocris* is free to elevate *Tihrik* to the highest position in the state. This leads to dissatisfaction among the Egyptian nobles, and a conspiracy, headed by *Amenophis*, the prime minister (Mr. Stuart), is formed for the destruction of the envied and hated consort of the Queen. The plans of the conspirators are thwarted, and the story concludes with the coronation of *Tihrik*. Such is the plot of the play, the literary and dramatic points of which would not merit much notice apart from the scenic displays, to which it served as a sort of running commentary. The scene-painters and other artists certainly bear an equal part with the author in the production of the piece, the *tableaux* giving most striking and imposing representations of ancient Egypt. The Nile and the Pyramids, the Avenue and Hall of Sphinxes at Memphis, and the Temple of Memnon, are among these scenes. The costumes and all the appointments are taken from the best authorities, and in the Egyptian dances (led by Miss Rosina Wright), the attitudes are adopted from monumental figures. Remarkable stage effects are successfully managed, especially the destruction of the conspirators by the waters of the Nile in the banquet-hall. The great effect of the piece is supposed to be in the coronation procession, with its multitudinous host, and interminable array of idols and emblems—a piece of pageantry which we suggest to the manager to offer to the Lord Mayor, who would be able to exhibit a more imposing show on the 9th of November than some of his predecessors have done with Batty's stud, and the tawdry ornaments of the hippodrome. Of the acting of the piece we are disposed to say nothing, as we feel we are noticing less a dramatic performance than an exhibition of artistic skill and mechanical ingenuity. Some of the music, by Mr. Laurent, is spirited and appropriate, and great credit is due to Messrs. Nichols, Cooper, and other artists, for the scenery. On Wednesday evening the Lyceum company, headed by ex-manager Charles Mathews, appeared at Drury Lane, receiving a welcome and achieving a triumph that secures the success of the dramatic season, if ordi-

nary tact and exertions are put forth. The piece was an old Drury Lane comedy, *The Wealthy Widow*, by Mr. Poole, now revived under the title of *Married for Money*. *Mr. Mopas* (C. Mathews), a fast young man in debt and difficulties, as a desperate resort, marries a widow twice his age (Mrs. F. Mathews). The social results of such a union are happily drawn in one of the papers in the 'Spectator' to the humour of which the dramatist is indebted. An old college friend of *Mopas*, *Bob Royland* (Mr. Roxby), makes love to *Mrs. Mopas's* grown-up daughter (Miss Oliver), cutting out a wealthy old suitor. *Bob Royland* having witnessed his friend's miserable thralldom as a henpecked husband, stirs him up to insurrection, to which he is at length, under unusual stimulus, incited. The smartness of Miss Mason as a *soubrette* contributed much to the pleasant flow of the piece, the chief point of which, however, lies in the amusing exhibitions of character by Mr. C. Mathews as *Mopas* in bondage, and *Mopas* emancipated.

At the Haymarket, on Thursday, a new comedy, in two acts, adapted from the French, was produced, slight in material but neat in construction, and serving admirably to display the peculiar excellences of the pretty and pleasing young actress, Miss Fane, who is deservedly a favourite at this house. Her acting of *Gertrude*, in *The Little Treasure*, as the piece is entitled, is a charming performance. *Gertrude* lives at Richmond with her grandmother (Mrs. Poynter), and mother, *Lady Howard* (Miss Swanborough), her father, *Sir C. Howard* (Mr. Howe), being in London separated from his wife. As *Gertrude* grows up, curiosity and dissatisfaction increase as to the absence of her father. From a cousin home from India, *Capt. Walter Maydenblush* (Mr. Buckstone), she contrives to learn the state of affairs, and quickly resolves what to do. Supposing that if she were to be married, the father and mother must meet to make arrangements, she boldly pops the question to her admiring and bashful *Cousin Walter*. The mother consents, and she finds her way to the father also, who is delighted with the appearance and manners of his child, whom he had not seen for many years. After a variety of incidents the domestic reconciliation is fully effected, and *Cousin Walter* possesses 'the little treasure,' though at first she coquettishly declares she had no love for him, but only made the proposal to effect her own purpose. The character of shrewd *naïveté*, of ingenuous simplicity, and winning heartiness, is difficult to give in one word, the French *ingénue* is nearest it, but the representation by Miss Fane was charmingly natural and expressive.

At the Adelphi, Mr. Hudson commenced his performances on Monday evening with *Rory O'More*, Miss Kate Keeley being *Kathleen*, and the other parts being well sustained. Mr. Hudson's Irish representations are by far the best that are seen in our day on this side of the channel, and he is in great force at present. In the afterpiece the return of Mr. and Mrs. Keeley was warmly greeted, and a useful accession to the company appears in Miss Arden, a clever actress.

A strange piece of news is, we learn from Paris, exciting great sensation in the literary circles of that city just now. Madame George Sand, in compliance with a flattering request from the government, and on the promise of liberal pecuniary recompense, recently undertook to write a five-act play for the Théâtre Français, but she laid down the condition, which the government accepted, that it should be produced exactly as she might write it, without any modification whatsoever by censors or actors even to the extent of a single word. The government has just learned to its dismay that the subject the great writer has selected is the *Conversion of St. Paul!* The thing seems scarcely credible, but so it is; and it is added that the apostle himself is to be the hero of the play, and that he is to be represented as a sort of precursor of those amiable political enthusiasts called Red Republicans and Socialists. The government is in great perplexity as to what it should do—for, on the one hand, it is probable that the Parisian

public, though by no means remarkable for godliness, would hardly like to see one of the most sublime incidents in the history of Christianity made the matter of a play as in a mystery of the olden time; and, on the other, it is not pleasant to break faith with an author of Madame Sand's stamp, and so, perhaps, drive her into fierce hostility to the Bonapartean régime. Talking of the lady, we hear that she has lately paid such great attention to religious subjects, as to have become quite mystically inclined, and to have some idea of starting as the foundress of a new religion. In addition to her play about St. Paul, she has, we are assured, written a very curious work on the Book of Genesis, and is about to publish it in the *feuilleton* of the 'Presse.'

#### PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION.—Sept. 14th.—In the Section of Mechanical Science the Earl of Harrowby read the report of the invention and patent laws committee. The report gave an account of the reasons which had led to the appointment of the committee. Under the administration of the new patent law, which came into operation on the 1st October, 1852, a fund, amounting to more than 50,000*£* per annum, is raised from the inventors of inventions for which letters patent may be applied for or granted. The raising of so large a sum of money, no less than its present appropriation, may be regarded as symptoms of disease in the patent system, and of defect in its administration. If the benefits conferred on the public by the well-directed labours of inventors, are to be rewarded by recognising exclusive property in inventions, for such a limited time as may be supposed to be sufficient for the perfecting of inventions in matters of detail, and securing their introduction into the arts and manufactures, and their adoption by the public, the funds levied on inventors in the first instance, and before any time shall have elapsed for attaining any portion of said remuneration or reward, ought not to be applied to purposes foreign or antagonistic to their interests, and it would appear but reasonable that such funds, if levied, should, so far as possible, be made accessible for the encouragement of inventors and the advancement of practical science. Of such an appropriation inventors, as a class, would have no cause to complain. On considering the steps to be taken by the committee for attaining the object of their appointment, the administration of the new patent system presented material obstacles to efficient progress. That system has been so arranged as to exclude the law officers of Scotland and Ireland from its administration, and to devolve the whole responsibility on the Lord Chancellor, the Master of the Rolls, the Attorney-General of England, and the Solicitor-General, whose other official duties are so numerous and engrossing as to prohibit their affording that attention to the development of a system confessedly so difficult as to be incapable of adequate administration, without the co-operation of persons practically acquainted with the requirements of the system intended to be established, and for the establishment of which ample provisions and powers are contained in the act. Under these circumstances, Earl Granville and Lord Brougham, and others interested in the law, have already had the subject pressed on their attention, and there is reason to believe that the efforts of the British Association will not be in vain. Mr. W. J. Macquorn Rankine then read a paper 'On the Operation of the Patent Laws.' While acknowledging the benefits derived from the amended patent law, he pointed out the following defects in its operations as subjects for discussion in the section:—1. The granting of patents for useless inventions; 2. The granting of more than one patent for the same invention during the currency of the provisional protection of the first; 3. The granting of patents for foreign inventions to persons other than the inventor or his assignee. How far these evils were to be removed by improvements in the administration of the law, and how far by improvements in the law itself, were subjects for further considera-

tion. Professor Fairbairn attended the meeting of British jurors on this subject, who came to a unanimous decision that something should be done in order to give greater facilities for the encouragement of invention, and also to reward those who had spent their whole life in scientific pursuits. He presided at the meeting at Manchester when the subject of the alteration of the patent laws was discussed, and a great majority was in favour of free trade, and that £1. was quite sufficient for a patent. Under the same circumstances, they thought, although a great number of useless patents might come forward, yet they might suggest ideas. Mr. Webster said the objection to a uniform low fee was, that there were so many persons who would be decoyed on, by hopes of making their fortunes, to engage in fruitless inventions, that it would become a fraud and a lottery upon them to allow them to get patents. He contended that there was nothing to be feared from too great an influx of foreign patents, for it always took a large amount of capital to introduce a new invention to public adoption; and it did not follow from an invention having a foreign reputation, that it should be immediately adopted in Britain, as was evidenced by the case of the Electric Telegraph. All the objections started by Mr. Ransome had been considered and discussed before the acts passed, and they were all amply provided for. He had no doubt but the recommended committee would secure many changes and improvements in addition to those effected last year. Sir David Brewster said that no invention was strictly fruitless. It showed that some person felt a want, and attracted the attention of others, who might afterwards supply it. He thought government should even give a bounty for inventions. Dr. Robinson of Armagh, characterised a gratis patent as a matter of justice and morality. He contended for an extension of the term of patents.

**GEOLOGICAL.** — June 13th. — Mr. Hamilton, President, in the chair. Dr. C. F. Naumann, of Leipsic, was elected Foreign Member; Dr. G. D. Gibb was elected Fellow. The following communications were read:—1. ‘On the Rock Specimens, Organic Remains, and Fossil Wood, collected in the Arctic Archipelago by Captain M’Clure and Lieutenant Pim.’ By Sir R. I. Murchison, V.P.G.S. The author gave a brief account of the rock specimens submitted to his notice some time since by Captain M’Clure and Lieutenant Pim, and stated that he had subsequently been favoured with an inspection of other specimens collected by Sir E. Belcher; from all of which he inferred that the oldest sedimentary rock of the Arctic archipelago is the Upper Silurian limestone, which contains several corals and other fossils known in the formations of that age in Gothland, Wenlock, and Dudley. No clear evidence has been afforded as to the existence of Devonian rocks, though extensive masses of red and brown sandstone may belong to that formation. True carboniferous *Producti* and *Spiriferi* have been brought home by Sir E. Belcher from Albert Land, north of Wellington Straits; and coaly matter has been detected in many localities. Secondary rocks, it is surmised, may exist in the smaller islands north of Wellington Channel, as fossil bones of saurians were found in them. As there are no clear traces of the older tertiary rocks, the author inferred that the older deposits of the Arctic region had been elevated at an early period, and had remained in that position during a very long time; for the objects to which the attention of the geologist is next drawn by the collections of the voyagers, are certain silicified stems of plants, which are widely spread over all the islands, between Wellington Channel and the east and west coasts of Banks’s Land, and which, from the examination already bestowed on them by Dr. Hooker, appear to be allied to, if not identical with, coniferous trees. At one spot, namely, Coxcomb Range, Banks’s Land, and at a height of 500 feet above the sea, Captain M’Clure collected a large *Cyprina*, undistinguishable from *C. islandica* of the glacial drift

of the British Isles. There are small stems of plants, some of which exhibit passages from a silicified condition to that of lignite and of wood, and numerous fragments of which seem to be referable to existing species of coniferae. Most of the specimens were buried in frozen mud or silt, and these have preserved, during a long period, their woody fibre in a natural condition. Attention was particularly directed to the portion of a trunk of one of these fir-trees, three feet six inches in circumference, which had been procured by Captain M’Clure from a ravine in Banks’s Land, where much of the wood is strewed about, in different states of preservation, at heights varying from 300 to 500 feet above the sea, together with cones apparently belonging to an *Abies*, resembling *A. alba* (a plant still living within the Arctic circle). One of Lieutenant Pim’s specimens of wood from Prince Patrick’s Island is of the same character, and much resembles *Pinus strobus*, or the American pine, according to Professor Quekett, who refers another specimen, brought from Hecla and Griper Bay, to the larch. Having alluded to the fact of the remains (including entire skeletons) of whales having been found by Sir E. Belcher to the north of Wellington Channel, at considerable heights above the sea, the author inferred that the existence of the remains of these animals with those of fir-trees of considerable size, in latitudes ranging from  $74^{\circ}$  to  $78^{\circ} 10'$ , could be most easily explained by supposing that the greater portion of this region was submerged, when the remains of whales and the *Cyprina* were lodged on a former submarine surface, and when quantities of wood were floated or carried by ice-floes (accompanied by much silt and detritus) from the mouths of the nearest great rivers; a subsequent elevation of such sea-bottom having produced the present relations. At the same time he admitted that a case which had been brought to his notice by Sir E. Belcher, might induce some persons to believe that the trees grew upon the spot where their remains are now found; since that officer examined a trunk in lat.  $75^{\circ} 30'$  north and long.  $92^{\circ} 15'$  west, which he states to have been in a vertical position, with its roots extending downwards into a clayey and peaty soil with sand. Remarkable as this case is, and leading, as it might, to the inference that a very different climate prevailed here when such vegetation existed, the author prefers the simpler view above mentioned to one which would necessarily involve the hypotheses of,—1. A much warmer climate, at a time when these Arctic lands were high above the sea; 2. A depression to the extent of several hundred feet, to account for the distribution of Arctic marine animals over the surface, and, 3rdly, another elevation to bring about the present configuration. In short, however willing to allow for great upheavals and depressions in quasi-modern times, the author does not see how the co-existence of the remains of whales and marine shells with living species of trees on the same land can be satisfactorily accounted for, except by a former action of drift, similar to that which covered Northern Europe and North America with erratics and débris,—the polar examples differing only from those of other countries by the preservation of wood in its pristine condition through the excessive cold of the Arctic region. Since the above was communicated, a large series of specimens have been received from Captain Kellett and Captain Collinson, which corroborate the foregoing conclusions. 2. ‘On the Remains of Dicynodon tricipes from South Africa.’ By Professor Owen, F.G.S. In this communication the author described certain vertebrae, the sacrum, the pectoral and pelvic arches, and one of the long bones of the extremities. The vertebrae of the trunk are deeply cupped; the peculiarities of an anterior dorsal vertebra are described in detail: there is an articulation for the head of the rib upon the side of the centrum or vertebral body, and another for the tubercle of the rib upon the diapophysis. This remarkable vertebra combines peculiarities borrowed, as it were, from different genera of saurians. In the proportions of the centrum, of the neural arch and spine, it resembles the vertebrae of the

*pleiosaurus*; in the deep concavity of each articular end it resembles the vertebrae of the *ichthyosaurus* and fishes: in the twofold articulation of the thoracic rib it resembles the vertebrae of the crocodiles and dinosaurs, and indicates that the *dicynodon* possessed the higher structure of the heart which characterizes the *crocodilia* amongst reptiles. The sacrum is represented by two remarkably modified vertebrae, ankylosed and chiefly distinguished by the unusual expansion of the outer end of the rib elements, that of the anterior vertebra forming a depressed but strong plate of bone, which is bent backwards at a right angle for the extent of seven inches, increasing in vertical thickness, and presenting a rough concave surface for the iliac bone the ankylosed rib of the second sacral vertebra extends outwards, expanding chiefly in the backward direction, so as to abut against and also overlap the rib of the first vertebra, and to form the upper expanded part of the sacro-iliac surface. The length of the sacrum is between five and six inches, its breadth is thirteen. The ilium, which is contracted above the part that contributes to the socket for the thigh-bone, expands into a broad semi-oval plate, twelve inches in length, six inches in breadth, and two inches in thickness; the outer surface is sub-concave, the inner surface shows a rough articular facet for junction with the sacrum, of ten inches in length, and five inches in breadth. This structure, with the modification of the sacrum, indicates the power of the *dicynodon* to support and move itself on dry land, in a degree between that of the crocodiles and the dinosaurs. The pubis contributes the major part of the lower half of the acetabulum; it is extensively and closely united to the ischium, leaving a comparatively small “obturator” inter-space or foramen. The pelvis of the *dicynodon* differs from that of all known crocodilian and lacertian reptiles, inasmuch as in these the pubis and ischium are united together only for the small extent where they complete the acetabulum. The scapula and coracoid are ankylosed and form one bone, as in some of the lizard tribe. The scapula is an equilateral triangular plate of bone, eleven inches in length. The coracoid contributes the lower and broader half of the cavity for the head of the arm-bone, near which it is perforated, and a process from its fore-part has been broken off; the breadth of the coracoid is eight inches. The length of the combined scapula and coracoid is twenty-one inches. They formed a powerful pectoral arch, and the size of the glenoid cavity indicates a well-developed fore-limb. Of the long bones of the extremities there is, however, but one which is sufficiently entire for intelligible description. It is chiefly remarkable for the extraordinary expansion of the distal articular end, which shows one very large convex condyle, a second smaller condyle, and a powerful external ridge for muscular attachments. From the above indications afforded by bones of the trunk and limbs, the author concludes that, although the *dicynodon* was amphibious, and could doubtless swim well, it possessed limbs capable of active movements on land, and probably adapted to other uses.

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Dresden, Oct. 5th, 1855.

THE new gallery is now at last open to the public, and naturally forms the great attraction of this town. We have for the last few years been promised every year that a few months would suffice to finish the building and complete the arrangements, and been so often disappointed, that we had given it up in despair. The building is very long, forming the fourth side to the Zwinger, Grecian in its architecture, and built of red sand-stone. Its external decorations are very chaste and beautiful, consisting of fluted columns, with Corinthian capitals, and statues and bas-reliefs of classical subjects by Hänel and Rietschel, the well-known Dresden sculptors. One side of the building is devoted exclusively to the illustration of Christian art, and historical subjects from the Old Testament. The internal ornaments of the building are rich, but

at the same time so simple as in no way to interfere with the pictures themselves. The lower story is devoted to the casts of the Elgin marbles, and those from ancient statues, known as the museum of Raphael Mengs, besides the engravings and the pastels of Mengs, the Liotards, &c., and some oil paintings of Canaletto, Canale, and Dietrich. All the other pictures are arranged in the two upper stories, one room being reserved for the Madonna di San Sisto of Raphael. In a cupola in the centre of the building are hung twelve fine tapestries, chiefly from designs of Raphael; they are set in frames, or rather a wainscoting of dark oak, and show to great advantage. The removal of the pictures from the old to the new gallery has occupied about four months, and they certainly have gained greatly by their change of abode; and the opportunity of seeing these invaluable works of art during the inclement German winter is a great boon to those strangers who have fixed their temporary residence here. The building is to be opened to the public, free of all charge, for three days in the week, and for a payment of five silver groschen (about six-pence) each person on two others. The rooms are to be comfortably heated during the winter, and for this purpose pipes have been laid through every room to conduct hot air. Professor Hübner, one of the committee of artists employed to superintend the gallery, has been commissioned to make a new catalogue of the pictures. Mr. Arnold, one of the principal sellers of pictures and engravings here, is exhibiting at present in his shop a very early copy of Müller's engraving of the Madonna di San Sisto. It is one of the best, if not the very best, existing, and was presented by the engraver to his wife. Mr. Arnold asks for it, I think, sixty pounds. This engraving is as much superior to all others as the original picture is to the best copies.

Professor Rietschel's beautiful group of the "Virgin Mary kneeling before the Body of our Saviour just taken down from the Cross," has recently been placed in a niche of a chapel in the Friedenskirche at Potsdam, opposite to Thorwaldsen's colossal statue of Christ. It is in Carrara marble, placed on a pedestal of polished Siberian stone.

From Berlin we learn that the sarcophagus of the late King of Hanover, which is now being shown in Professor Rauch's studio, is to be forwarded in a few days to Herrenhausen, where the monument to the late queen, also from the chisel of Rauch, is to be erected. The sarcophagus is in marble, with the statue of the king in a recumbent posture on the cover; the head leans on a cushion, the body clothed in the hussar uniform, and enveloped in the royal mantle. A very accurate and pleasing likeness of Alexander von Humboldt occupies a prominent place in the Professor's studio, and also a statue of Kant, about eight feet high, in clay; it is to be sent shortly to the royal foundry to be cast in bronze. There is also a very beautiful group in marble, representing Moses supported by Aaron and Hur, as he stands on the mountain, and stretches out his arms in an attitude of prayer over the Israelites in their battle with the Amalekites.

Overbeck has just completed his picture, about which I wrote to you some weeks ago, for the cathedral at Cologne. He is now on his way back to Rome, accompanied by the sculptor Hoffmann.

A large picture by Piloty, representing the philosopher Seni entering the sleeping apartment of Wallenstein and finding him murdered, has just been acquired by King Louis of Bavaria, and exhibited by him in the new Pinakothek of Munich. The picture is exciting universal admiration; the disposition of the lights and shadows is remarkably successful, and the colouring vigorous and harmonious.

From Rome I learn that the fine collection of pictures made by the late Baron Camuccini, so long one of the great attractions to the lovers of art in the Eternal City, has through the medium of Dr. Braun, the well-known German archeologist, been purchased for the Duke of Northumberland; the price is, I understand, about 25,000l.

About seventy members of the Cologne Society of Choral Singers left that city on the 21st of last

month for Paris, where they are to give a series of concerts. The members of this society receive their food and lodging free, and five francs a day each besides. The balance of their profits is invariably handed over to the funds to complete the building of the cathedral, or to aid in repairing ancient churches in Rhenish Prussia. [We have since heard from Paris that this has not proved financially a successful visit.]

#### VARIETIES.

*St. Gawen's Well, Pembrokeshire.*—A fuller account of the appearance and strange superstitions of this curious spot, noticed in our last, is found in the notes to the poem of 'The Country House,' by Mr. James Prior, the biographer of Burke, published in 1846:—"Among other points of interest for which the cliffs are visited, is a small bay, pretty steep in its sides, and so lashed by surf as rarely to permit a boat to land between the rocks, where stands the Hermitage (or Chapel) and 'Holy' or 'Healing' Well of St. Gawen, or Gavin, \* \* \* Here the Saint is said to have retired for meditation; to have practised all religious duties; cured diseases; afforded the benefit of spiritual instruction to such as thought proper to seek it; and to have given to the well by his blessing those healing properties in bodily afflictions which it is still supposed to retain. Persons from distant parts of the Principality visit it for the cure of scrofula, paralysis, dropsy, and some other complaints. Nor is it the poor alone who make this pilgrimage. My friend the Rev. Mr. Allen, of Bosherston, who became my guide on the occasion, mentioned the instance of a lady of fortune who came thither, fixed her quarters at a farm-house, was taken daily in her carriage to the well, being as she said unable to walk, and after a stay of several weeks, departed, by her own statement, perfectly cured. From the cliff the descent to the Hermitage or Chapel is by fifty-two steps, which are said never to appear the same number in the ascent—a magical variation which had no influence upon me. The building is no doubt old, about sixteen feet long by eleven wide; has three doors and as many windows; a small well, the water of which is said to be curative in some complaints of the eyes; a rudely-vaulted roof; two supposed receptacles for holy water and incense; with what some suppose was meant for a primitive altar, and others simply a grave-stone. A door near the latter leads to a recess, open at top, the ascent to which is by six steps, and one side of which forms the Wishing Corner,—fissure in the limestone rock, with indentations, believed to resemble the marks which the ribs of a man forced into this nook would make if the mass of rock were clay. To this crevice many of the good people of the country, who give free reins to their imagination, are disposed to believe that our Saviour by a wish removed himself for a time from the persecutions of the Jews. Others deem it more likely that Saint Gawen, influenced by the spirit of religious mortification, squeezed himself daily into it as a penance for supposed transgressions, until at length the point of the ribs became impressed upon the rock! Here the pilgrim, standing upon a stone rendered smooth by the operation of the feet, is to turn round nine times and wish according to his desires. If this be not unreasonable, and the saint propitious, the wish will be gratified. Another marvellous quality of the fissure is, that it receives the largest man as well as the least. What it may do where faith abounds I know not, but it would not receive me, though by no means of heroic dimensions. A further descent of thirty steps took us to the Ringing Stone,—so called from emitting a metallic sound when struck by any firm body. Even a blow from my riding-whip produced the usual effect. To this object also a fable belongs.

In a small turret over the Hermitage once hung a bell—silver they will have it—of more than ordinary power. Its fame reaching some Danish pirates, they landed, seized the prize, and when descending to their boat rested it for a moment on the stone. St. Gawen, unable to resist the marauders, prayed that they should be deprived of their

prey and punished. The stone on which it rested immediately opened, received the bell within it, and closed again. The pirates perished in rounding the promontory named St. Gawen's Head. Below the ledge on which it rests is the Holy Well. It is covered in, contains four or five gallons of water, tinged by a ferruginous clay found between the rocks. This clay is itself frequently applied as a poultice by the peasantry in certain complaints."

*A Grammatical Query.*—"There are many fields of learning, and a good knowledge of English grammar is the gate to them all."—*To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.*—"Sir. A dispute having arisen as to the nominative of the verb 'is' in the above sentence, I will feel greatly obliged if you will decide the matter. One party maintains that the noun 'knowledge' must be the nominative, while the other asserts that the foregoing sentence, 'good knowledge of English grammar,' would, by good grammarians, be considered as such.—A SUBSCRIBER." Technical grammarians would probably pronounce the word knowledge to be the nominative, but "good grammarians" may refuse to be bound by their rules, and regard the sentence as the nominative, as covering the whole idea to be conveyed. The rules of grammar are arbitrary, and are expressions of opinion, not like the indisputable laws of science. Our correspondent has as much right to make a rule of grammar as Bishop Lowth or Lindley Murray, and its authority would be as great if generally received. In the present instance it is surely better to regard the sentence as the nominative, than to attempt to consider the noun as such for the sake of apparent adherence to an arbitrary rule. What do the disputants say to a compound noun on the German plan? thus, "English-Grammar-Knowledge is the gate to them all."

*Statistics of Newspapers.*—As an illustration of the expansion of the newspaper trade, Mr. Simmonds mentioned that in 1841 that were 505 newspapers in Great Britain, and in 1851 there were 1091. In 1801, 16 millions of newspaper stamps were issued; in 1811, 24½ millions; in 1821, 25 millions; in 1831, 33½ millions; in 1841, 60½ millions; in 1851, nearly 90 millions. In the present year, so far as the returns go, they show at the rate of more than 100 millions, more than 50 millions being issued for the first half of the year. 'The Times' had made still greater progress in proportion, having a circulation of 3½ millions in 1837, and in the present year at the rate, for the first six months, of 9 millions in the year. The number of newspapers in Scotland in 1841 was 70, and the number of stamps taken by them was 4½ millions. In 1851 the number had increased to 117, using 7 millions of stamps. In the present year there were 151 newspapers, using, for the first six months, nearly 4½ millions of stamps, or at the rate of more than 9 millions in the year.—*Mr. Simmonds at British Association Meeting.*

*Cambridge Working Men's College.*—The building of this institution is being formed at the rear of the premises in Market Hill. It consists of a suite of three class-rooms, separated, or rather united by folding-doors, and forming, when opened up, one large hall, or lecture-room, capable of accommodating two hundred persons. Ventilation and warming have been attended to, and the college will shortly be opened with evening classes.—*The Builder.*

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